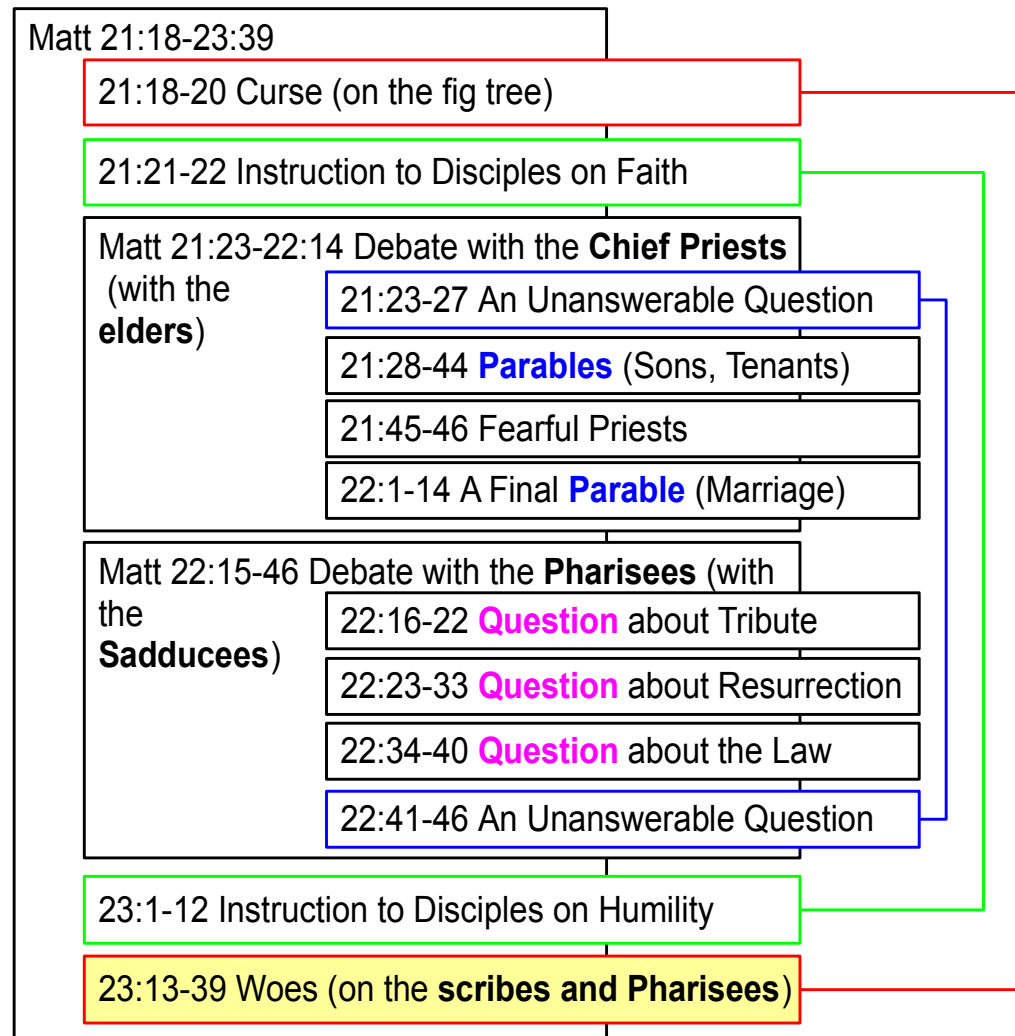
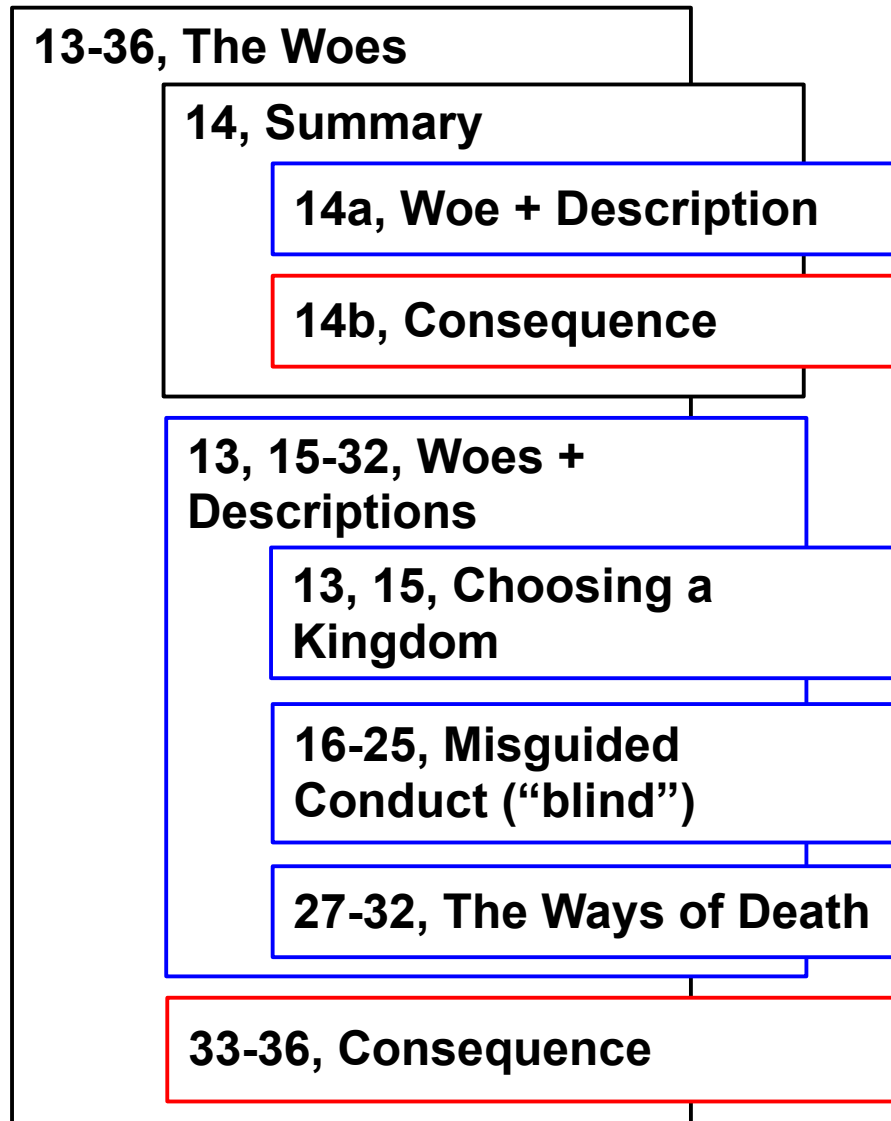


Treasure Hunt

- What is the common theme of the first two woes (vv. 13 and 15)?
- How does Matthew indicate the antagonism of the Pharisees to the Lord's message?
- What is the common theme of the next three woes (vv. 16-25)?
- What key word runs through these woes?
- What is the real reason that lies are wrong?
- Is the Lord the first one to suggest that judgment, mercy, and faith(fulness) are more important than offerings?
- What does the third of these words mean?

Structure of the Woes



ABA'B' summary alternation

- AB = Table of Contents
- A'B' = Detail
- Extremely common throughout the Bible

Choosing a Kingdom

v. 13, Shutting up the kingdom of heaven

Mat 16:1 The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and **tempting** desired him that he would shew them a sign from heaven.

Mat 19:3 The Pharisees also came unto him, **tempting** him, and saying unto him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause?

Mat 22:17 Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not? 18

But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why **tempt** ye me, ye hypocrites?

Mat 22:35 Then one of them, *which was a lawyer*, asked *him a question*, **tempting** him, and saying, 36 Master, *which is the great commandment in the law?*

Mat 27:20 But the chief priests and elders **persuaded the multitude** that they should ask Barabbas, and destroy Jesus.

v. 14, Make him a child of hell...

Mat 15:6 Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition.

15-25, Woes on Blind Pharisees

Mat 15:14 Let them alone: they be **blind** leaders of the **blind**. And if the **blind** lead the **blind**, both shall fall into the ditch.

Unpaired climax		22 And he that shall swear by heaven, sweareth by the throne of God, and by him that sitteth thereon.
Temple and gold	16 Woe unto you, ye blind guides, which say, Whosoever shall swear by the temple, it is nothing; but whosoever shall swear by the gold of the temple, he is a debtor! 17 Ye fools and blind : for whether is greater, the gold, or the temple that sanctifieth the gold?	21 And whoso shall swear by the temple, sweareth by it, and by him that dwelleth therein.
Altar and sacrifice	18 And, Whosoever shall swear by the altar, it is nothing; but whosoever sweareth by the gift that is upon it, he is guilty. 19 Ye fools and blind : for whether is greater, the gift, or the altar that sanctifieth the gift?	20 Whoso therefore shall swear by the altar, sweareth by it, and by all things thereon.

What Makes an Oath Binding?

OT Law on Altars and Vessels:

Exo 29:37 Seven days thou shalt make an atonement for the altar, and sanctify it; and it shall be an altar most holy:

whatsoever toucheth the altar shall be holy.

Exo 30:26 And thou shalt anoint the tabernacle of the congregation therewith, and the ark of the testimony, 27 And the table and all his vessels, and the candlestick and his vessels, and the altar of incense, 28 And the altar of burnt offering with all his vessels, and the laver and his foot. 29 And thou shalt sanctify them, that they may be most holy: **whatsoever toucheth them shall be holy.**

The real point:

Mat 5:33 Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto **the Lord** thine oaths: 34 But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is **God's** throne: 35 Nor by the earth; for it is **his** footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the **great King**.

Pro 6:16 These six *things* doth **the LORD** hate: yea, seven *are* an abomination unto him: 17 A proud look, **a lying tongue**, and hands that shed innocent blood, 18 An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, 19 **A false witness that speaketh lies**, and he that soweth discord among brethren.

Gen 17:1 I *am* the Almighty God; **walk before me**, and be thou perfect.

Offerings and Other Duties

Offerings are important:

Lev 27:30 And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD'S: it is holy unto the LORD.

Deu 14:22 Thou shalt truly tithe all the increase of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth year by year.

Something else is more important:

Mic 6:6 Wherewith shall I come before the LORD, *and* bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old? 7 Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, *or* with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn *for* my transgression, the fruit of my body *for* the sin of my soul? 8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what *is* good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but **to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?**

Hos 6:6 For I desired **mercy**, and not sacrifice; and the **knowledge of God** more than burnt offerings.

Hos 12:6 Therefore turn thou to thy God: keep **mercy** and **judgment**, and **wait on thy God** continually.

More than Sacrifice...

The Value and Limits of Judgment

Gen 18:19 he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and **judgment**.

Psa 40:8 I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, **thy law** is within my heart.

Phi 3:6 touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

Matt 23:23	Mic 6:8	Hos 6:6	Hos 12:6
Judgment	Do justly ("judgment")		Judgment
Mercy	Love mercy	Mercy	Mercy
Faith[fulness]	Walk humbly with thy God	Knowledge of God	Wait on thy God

Faith vs. Works?

Rom 4:6 Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, *7 Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. 8 Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.*

Rom 8:4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Cleaning the Dishes

Mar 7:4 And many other things there be, which they have received to hold, *as* the washing [dipping] of cups, and pots, brasen vessels, and of tables.

Lev 11:31 These [various unclean animals, such as mice] *are* unclean to you among all that creep: whosoever doth touch them, when they be dead, shall be unclean until the even. 32 And upon whatsoever *any* of them, when they are dead, doth fall, it shall be unclean; whether *it be* any vessel of wood, or raiment, or skin, or sack, whatsoever vessel *it be*, wherein *any* work is done, it must be put into water, and it shall be unclean until the even; so it shall be cleansed. 33 And every earthen vessel, whereinto *any* of them falleth, whatsoever *is* in it shall be unclean; and ye shall break it.