

The Yeast of the Pharisees

Luke 12:1-12

by Don Falkos

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Jesus said to his disciples, "Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees – their hypocrisy, their pretense, their false teachings. The time is coming when there will be no more secrets. There is nothing hidden inside that will not be exposed, nothing private that will not be made public. Whatever you might say in the darkness will be heard in daylight, and whatever you whisper behind closed doors will be shouted from the rooftops.

"My friends, don't be afraid of people. Oh, it's true, they can kill you, but that's all they can do. Now, God... God can not only take your life, but can also throw you into hell. If you're going to fear anyone, God is the one you should fear. And yet, think about this. Five sparrows can be bought for a bit of loose change. But God doesn't forget a single one of them. And God cares more about you, even numbering the hairs on your head. So don't be afraid. You're worth more than a flock of sparrows.

"If you publicly acknowledge me as the Messiah, I will acknowledge you in the presence of the angels. But if you publicly reject me, you will find yourself rejected. If you speak against the Son of Man out of ignorance, you can be forgiven, but if you intentionally speak against the Holy Spirit, you cannot be forgiven.

"When you're put on trial in front of a synagogue, or some other authority, don't worry about what you're going to say or how you're going to say it. The Holy Spirit will give you the right words in that very moment."