

Matthew Series

Lesson #145

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Dean Bible Ministries

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MATTHEW

JESUS: KING OF THE JEWS

Jesus Condemns the Pharisees—Part 1

Matthew 23:13–22

**VI. Jesus is presented to Israel as her
Messianic King and rejected (21:21–25:46)**

- A. Jesus is publicly presented to Israel as
her Messianic King, 21:1–17**
- B. Jesus the Messianic King is rejected by
the nation, but not all of the people,
21:18–22:46**
- C. Jesus rejects the nation and
announces eight (7) WOES on the
religious leaders, 23:1–39**

Matt. 23:11, “But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant.

Matt. 23:12, “And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

**Religion = Man doing the work.
God blessing and validating
human effort.**

**Christianity = God doing all of the work.
Man receiving it by faith.**

Matt. 23:13, “But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither go in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in.”

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οὐαί *ouai* Interjection woe!

וַיֹּאזְנוּ *ʾoy* Particle interj woe!

**ὑποκριτής *hupokritēs*
actor; hypocrite**

Matt. 23:33, “Serpents, brood of vipers!”

“the seed of serpents.”

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“the seed of serpents.”

Gen. 3:14, “So the LORD God said to the serpent: ...

Gen. 3:15, “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.”

Matt. 15:7, “Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying:

Matt. 15:8, “ ‘These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me.

Matt. 15:9, “ ‘And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’ ”

Matt. 15:7, “Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying:

Matt. 15:8, “ ‘These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me.

Matt. 15:9, “ ‘And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’ ”

Matt. 15:14, “Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch.”

Matt. 23:13, “But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither go in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in.”

**Rom. 2:17, “Indeed you are called a Jew,
and rest on the law, and make your boast
in God,**

**Rom. 2:18, “and know His will, and
approve the things that are excellent, being
instructed out of the law,**

**Rom. 2:19, “and are confident that you
yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to
those who are in darkness,”**

Rom. 2:20, “an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, having the form of knowledge and truth in the law.

Rom. 2:21, “You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that a man should not steal, do you steal?”

The OTHER Woe

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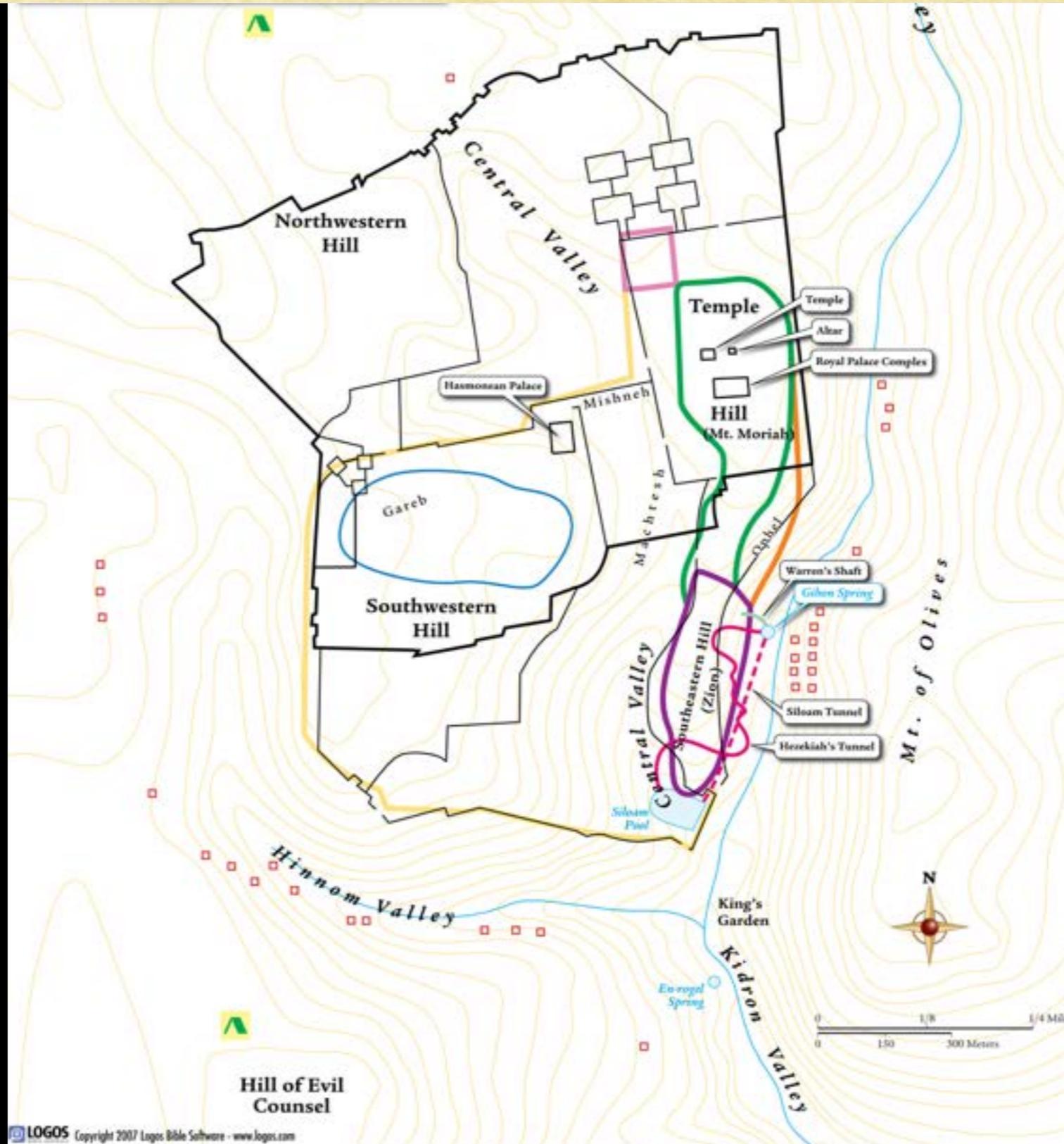
Mark 12:40, “who devour widows’ houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. These will receive greater condemnation.”

Matt. 23:15, “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.”

Gehenna, The Valley of Hinnom

גֵּיאַ הַחַיְהִים (ge' hinnom), γέεννα (geenna)

11× in 10 verses



***Gehenna*, “The Valley of Hinnom”**

גֵּיאַ הַחִינּוֹם (*ge' hinnom*), γέεννα (*geenna*)

11× in 10 verses

Where Judah sinned by committing child sacrifice and burning their sons and daughters in the fires of Molech. Thus *Gehenna* symbolized a place of idolatry, disobedience to God, and spiritual failure.



***Gehenna*, “The Valley of Hinnom”**

גֵּיהֵנּוֹם (ge' hinnom), γέεννα (geenna)

11 × in 10 verses

For their sins of idolatry Judah was to be punished in *Gehenna* in 586 BC.

This was a historical punishment of divine discipline on the nation for their spiritual failure.

In Jeremiah 19:6 Jeremiah predicted that as punishment for the sins, the valley would be used as a mass burial site for those slaughtered in the Babylonian destruction of Jerusalem in 586 BC.

Jer. 7:32, “ ‘Therefore behold, the days are coming,’ says the LORD, ‘when it will no more be called Tophet, or the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter; for they will bury in Tophet until there is no room.’ ”

Gehenna, The Valley of Hinnom

גֵּיאַ הַחִנּוֹם (*ge' hinnom*), γέεννα (*geenna*)

OT: 11× in 10 verses

Conclusion: The Valley of Hinnom was not used in the Old Testament as a reference to eternal condemnation in the Lake of Fire, but as a place of divine discipline on the nation of Israel for their spiritual failure. *Gehenna* thus became a symbol for spiritual failure, condemnation and shame, and divine discipline in time, not in eternity.

**Matt. 23:33, “Serpents, brood of vipers!
How can you escape the condemnation of
hell [the valley of Gehenna]?”**