Do I Have the Heart of a Pharisee?

First Woe

- First Hypocrisy: Pretending to be concerned about the Kingdom of Heaven. *Matthew 23:13*
  
  But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.

Second Woe

- Second Hypocrisy: Pretending to be pious. *Matthew 23:14*
  
  Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation.

Third Woe

- Third Hypocrisy: Pretending to believe in righteous gospel evangelism while instead leading people into religious Pharisaism. *Matthew 23:15*
  
  Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.

Fourth Woe

- Fourth Hypocrisy: Substituting money for mercy and faith. Here is the sin of evasion. Here is the sin of fidelity to the letter of the Law while forgetting the spirit of the Law. *Matthew 23:23*
  
  Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

Fifth Woe

- Fifth Hypocrisy: Pretending to be socially appealing while being scheming and greedy. Here is the sin of the magnification of matters of no importance which wreck the peace. *Matthew 23:25*
  
  Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess.

Sixth Woe

- Sixth Hypocrisy: Pretending to be outwardly morally good while being inwardly corrupt. *Matthew 23:27*
  
  Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness.
**Special Note.**

“As Shakespeare had it, a man may smile and smile and be a villain. A man may walk with bowed head and reverent steps and folded hands in the posture of humility, and all the time be looking down with cold contempt on those whom he regards as sinners. His very humility may be the pose of pride; and, as he walks so humbly, he may be thinking with relish of the picture of piety which he presents to those who are watching him. There is nothing harder than for a good man not to know that he is good; and once he knows he is good, his goodness is gone, however he may appear to men from the outside” (William Barclay).

**Seventh Woe**

- Seventh Hypocrisy: Pretending to honor the prophets while persecuting the righteous. Here is the sin of soul murder. *Matthew 23:29* Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous.

**Heart Searching Self Analysis**

1. I believe that my own righteousness does exceed that of the Pharisees.
   Yes ____ No_____

2. I pretend to be concerned about the Kingdom of Heaven, but I am not really interested in advancing the Kingdom of God.
   Yes _____ No_____

3. I like for others to view me as being a pious person, but I know I live in an impious and inappropriate manner.
   Yes _____ No_____

4. While I believe in gospel evangelism, I love most of all to lead people to my particular denomination or doctrinal persuasion.
   Yes _____ No_____

5. If I believe I am right on an issue involving the church, I do not care what happens, I will insist on my position, even if it causes people to be unhappy and brings disharmony rather than peace to the body of Christ.
   Yes_____ No_____ 

6. I give the impression to others that I am a good, decent, upright, and moral person, but I engage in a secret life of sin, lust, greed, and corruption. Often, I make provisions to satisfy my area of weakness.
   Yes_____ No_____ 

7. If a person dares to criticize or condemn any part of my behavior, I hate that person and would injure or retaliate against that individual if I could, so great is the resentment and anger in my heart for being judged.
   Yes_____ No_____