

Matthew 23:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

This verse reveals profound theological truth central to Reformed understanding of Scripture. The passage demonstrates God's sovereignty and grace working through human circumstances. Christ's teaching here challenges contemporary religious assumptions while pointing to deeper spiritual realities.

Historical Context

This verse originates in Jesus' ministry during a pivotal period. The first-century Jewish context included Roman occupation, Pharisaic religious authority, and messianic expectations. Understanding these factors illuminates the passage's significance.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What does this text reveal about human nature and God's grace?
2. How can you apply this teaching to current struggles or questions?

3. What changes in thinking or behavior does this passage require?

Interlinear Text

Οὐαὶ δέ ὑμῖν, γραμματεῖς καὶ Φαρισαῖοι ὑποκριταί,
Woe G1161 **unto you** G5213 **scribes** G1122 **and** G2532 **Pharisees** G5330 **hypocrites** G5273
G3759 G35213 G1122 G2532 G5330 G5273

ὅτι κατεσθίετε τὰς οἰκίας τῶν χηρῶν, καὶ προφάσει
! for G3754 **ye devour** G2719 **houses** G3588 **widows** G5503 **and** G2532 **for a pretence** G4392
G3588 G3614 G3588 G5503 G2532 G4392

μακρὰ προσευχόμενοι· διὰ τοῦτο λήψεσθε
long G3117 **make** G4336 **therefore** G1223 **ye shall receive** G2983
G3117 G4336 G1223 G2983

περισσότερον κρίμα
G4053 **damnation** G2917

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