



THE JESUS WAY NOT TO PRAY

January 15, 2023 // Matthew 6:1-8 // Dr. Ron Jones

“Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.”

MATTHEW 6:1 ESV

Pillars of Jewish Piety

- _____ MATTHEW 6:1-4
- _____ MATTHEW 6:5-15
- _____ MATTHEW 6:16-18

Jesus introduces each expression of piety with the word _____, not _____; He _____ us to pray.

Down with _____!

1. Don't pray like the _____!

And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. MATTHEW 6:5-6 ESV

The Greek word *hypokrites* refers to an _____ who pretends to be someone he is not.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut the kingdom of heaven in people’s faces.” MATTHEW 23:13 ESV

2. Don't pray like the _____!

And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.” MATTHEW 6:7-8 ESV

“Empty phrases” is translated from the Greek word *battalogo*, which sounds like what it means, _____ or repeating _____.