

Religious Corruption and Its Casualties
~Mark 12:38–44~

2 Peter 2:1–3
Matthew 7:13–14
2 Timothy 4:3–4

Four indicators of religious corruption:

1. Religious parading (vv. 38–39)

Matthew 23
Numbers 15:37–40
Matthew 9:20

2. Religious extortion (v. 40a)

Exodus 22:22
Deuteronomy 10:18
Luke 16:14

3. Religious pride (v. 40b)

Matthew 6:5
Matthew 23:13–36

4. Religious exploitation (vv. 41–44)

2 Thessalonians 3:10
Mark 11:17
Luke 16:14
Ezekiel 34:1–10

True spiritual leadership is characterized by the opposite virtues of what we see in these Jewish leaders.

1. Instead of religious parading—humility
2. Instead of religious extortion—sympathy
3. Instead of religious pride—authenticity
4. Instead of religious exploitation—service/care