

# The Message

Pastor Ron Smith

## Sanctions

**Matthew 13:53 – 19:1**



# Prophets

“A prophet is not without honor except in his own country and in his own house” (13:57).



# The Function of a Prophet



# The Last Old Testament Prophet



# Herod's Oath



# God's Oath

Under the 4<sup>th</sup> point of the covenant, God swears with an oath to bless us if we obey and to curse us if we disobey.



# Sanctions & Counter-Sanctions

John prosecutes Herod and Herod prosecutes John.  
Jesus then counters the sanctions of Herod by feeding  
the 5000.



# Pharisees Sanction the Disciples



# Jesus Counter-Sanctions Them

“Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you!”

Matthew 15:7-10



# The First of Ten Times

“Hypocrites!”



# **Gentile Woman Blessed**

**Matthew 15:21**



# Matthew 16:13

**“Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?”**



**For the First Time Jesus Tells of the Ultimate Sanction**



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**For the first time He calls the Pharisees hypocrites**



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**For the first time He calls the Pharisees hypocrites**  
**For the first time in Matthew He reveals Himself as the**  
**Son of God.**



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**For the first time He reveals His death & resurrection.**



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**For the first time He reveals He is Christ, the Son of  
God.**

**For the first time He reveals His death & resurrection.**

**For the first time He uses the word “church.”**



# The Gate of Their Enemies

God promised Abraham, “Your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies” (Genesis 22:17).

**If you possess the gate, you possess the government.**



**The First City Builders in History  
Were Bad Guys  
(Cain & Nimrod)**



# **The Purpose for Building These Cities**

**To replace faith in God for faith in the state  
(social security).**



# **The Gate to Death & Hell: The State**

**The answer is minimal government and freedom.**



# **God's Program of Redemption**

**The city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. (Hebrews 11:10)**



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