

Halifax Nuts

by Thomas Brooks

The sermon warns against the dangers of hypocrisy and false holiness, emphasizing the importance of genuine inward holiness.

Scripture: 1 Samuel 16:7, Proverbs 21:2, Isaiah 29:13, Matthew 23:28, Matthew 23:33, Luke 6:46, Romans 2:28-29, Galatians 6:7-8, 2 Timothy 3:5, James 1:22

Topics: "Hypocrisy", "True Holiness"

Description

Thomas Brooks emphasizes the danger of being outwardly holy while lacking true inner holiness, comparing such individuals to Halifax nuts, which are all shell and no kernel. He warns that many present a glorious facade to the world but are abominable in God's sight, highlighting the hypocrisy of those who appear righteous externally but are filled with wickedness internally. Brooks draws parallels to the Scribes and Pharisees, who were outwardly religious yet inwardly corrupt, and cautions that God despises those who masquerade their sins with a guise of holiness. The sermon serves as a stark reminder that true holiness must come from within, lest one face severe consequences in the afterlife.

Transcript

A man may be visibly holy--who is not inwardly holy.

A man may have an outward dress of holiness upon him

--who has not the spirit and vitality of holiness in him.

They say of Halifax nuts, that they are all shells--with

no kernels. Just so, there are many who make a glorious

show before men--who are abominable in the sight of

God, who are gold in man's eyes--but dirt in God's sight.

"In the same way, on the outside you appear to people

as righteous; but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy

and wickedness." Matthew 23:28

They were outwardly religious--but inwardly wicked; they had the semblance of sanctity--but inwardly very full of impurity; they were fair professors--but foul sinners; they were gracious without--but impious within. Look! as those are the worst of vices which are covered over with the show of virtue; so they are the worst of sinners, who cover over their inward filthiness with the disguises of outward holiness.

The Egyptian temples were fair on the outside--but foul and filthy within. Such were the Scribes and Pharisees in Christ's days--and such are many professors in our days.

God will at last hate that man to hell, yes, cast him into the hottest place in hell--who has a form of godliness upon him; but nothing of the reality and power of holiness in him.

"You snakes! You brood of vipers! How will you escape being condemned to hell?" Matthew 23:33

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