

*Jesus made a rather staunch condemnation towards God's people in Mathew 23:23, "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone." Though this was a true statement and worthy of teaching, some of us today would not have made it ourselves for fear of being labeled as "unloving". (Proverbs 27:5) Was Jesus, Our Lord, being harsh? No, I believe The Master was demonstrating what psychologists used to brand as "tough love". (Proverbs 9:8) The Church should place MAXIMUM efforts into encouraging, loving and discipling the world; for this is our calling. (Matthew 28:18-20) We should ALWAYS focus on the "weightier matters" of the law, but without committing the sin of omission AGAIN by not "speaking the truth in love" from both sides. (Ephesians 4:15) Preaching and teaching should be as objective as humanly possible. Some will laugh and cry at the exact same message where others will be gritting their teeth. (Acts 2:41, 7:54) So, preach the Word Brethren, let God work on the hearts of those who hear and those who do not. (2 Timothy 4:1-5) Please make a moment to think on these things.*

*In Christ, Archie*

