

BGM BIBLE COLLEGE

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

Lecture 03 By Pastor Munawar Khurshid

According to the Jewish Talmud, there were Seven Types of Pharisees:

1. **The Shoulder Pharisee:**
This type of Pharisee carried all his good deeds “**upon his shoulder**” so that all could see them. It was as though he wore a badge to draw attention to his righteousness, allowing even those afar off to know of his piety. His religion was a performance, done for the praise of men.
2. **The “Wait-a-Little” Pharisee:**
These were Pharisees who always delayed doing good, seeking excuses to avoid righteous acts. Even when someone in need stood before them, they would not help, claiming they must first go assist another. Their delay masked their neglect.
3. **The Bruised or Bleeding Pharisee (Blind Pharisee):**
These Pharisees, in their extreme effort to avoid looking upon a woman, would shut their eyes and end up striking walls or stumbling, thus injuring themselves. In fear of committing sin by sight, they physically blinded themselves to the world, yet remained inwardly blind to mercy and truth.
4. **The Hunched-Back Pharisee (Humble Pharisee):**
This type walked with his head bowed in a show of false humility. He constantly asked what more he must do, as though he had already fulfilled every previous commandment. He bowed his shoulders, believing that by such posture he could avoid temptation and escape sin. He viewed himself as one without fault.
5. **The Accounting Pharisee:**
This type of Pharisee kept a record of sins and attempted to balance them by doing good deeds. He believed that as long as he performed enough righteous acts to outweigh his sins, he could continue sinning. His life was a ledger of merits and transgressions, constantly weighed on a moral scale.
6. **The Fearful Pharisee:**
This Pharisee did well not out of love for God, but out of fear of divine punishment. His righteousness was driven by dread, not devotion. Though often considered pious by others, his motives were rooted in terror rather than truth.
7. **The God-Fearing Pharisee:**
This was the true and righteous kind of Pharisee. He was motivated by love—love for God and love for people. His actions flowed from sincere faith and devotion, not hypocrisy or fear. **Nicodemus** and **Joseph of Arimathea** were such Pharisees, who sincerely sought to do what was right in the sight of God.

Other Jewish Sects and Political Groups Mentioned in the New Testament:

The Sadducees:

A Jewish sect made up of the aristocracy and political elite. They were the rivals of the Pharisees. The Sadducees were liberal in their theology and denied the existence of angels, miracles, and the resurrection of the dead (*cf. Acts 23:7–8*).

Though opposed to the Pharisees in doctrine, they often united against **our Lord Jesus Christ** (*cf. Matthew 16:1–12; 22:23–33*).

The Herodians:

A purely political party loyal to **Herod** and supportive of Roman rule. Their very name indicates their allegiance to the Herodian dynasty. They proclaimed that everything was well under Roman governance and opposed anyone who threatened the political status quo—including the Lord Jesus Christ (*cf. Mark 3:6; 12:13–17*).

The Zealots:

A nationalist group of Jews who passionately opposed Roman occupation. They actively sought the liberation of Israel from Roman rule. The Zealots rejected all Roman policies, and their presence reflected the political fragmentation within Judaism. Ironically, this disunity benefited the Romans. They too opposed **our Lord Jesus Christ** (*cf. Luke 6:15; Acts 23:12–13*).

The Galileans:

This group followed **Judas the Galilean**, who is mentioned in *Acts 5:37*. Around AD 6 or 7, Judas claimed that **Israel was a kingdom under God alone**, with the Law as its supreme authority. This message was a direct threat to Roman rule, leading to his execution along with many of his followers.

The influence of this movement continued during the time of **our Lord Jesus Christ**, and some tried to associate Him with this group (*cf. Luke 13:1–3; 6:15*), aiming to present Him as a political threat to the Roman authorities (*cf. Luke 23:2*). Many **Zealots** were counted among the Galileans.



Thankyou so Much
