

Mark 12:38-40 **Beware of the Scribes who seek to exalt themselves**

³⁸ Then He said to them in His teaching, "Beware of the scribes, who desire to go around in long robes, love greetings in the marketplaces, ³⁹ the best seats in the synagogues, and the best places at feasts, ⁴⁰ who devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. These will receive greater condemnation." NKJV

Facts Revealed:

- ✚ Beware of the Scribes who seek honor from their fellow-man. [Matthew 23:1-12, Mark 12:38-40, Luke 20:45-47]
 - ✧ They wear Religious clothing to be admired by men.
 - ✧ They love to receive greetings in the marketplaces.
 - ✧ They seek the best seats in the Synagogues, and the best places at feasts.
 - ✧ Every thing they do is to impress men, because they are seeking honor and admiration from the masses.
 - ✧ They desire recognition and exalt themselves in the sight of men. This is a phenomenon quite common in highly organized churches of the world today. God calls it hypocritical.
 - ✧ We all need to remember that God hates pride and whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted. [Matthew 23:12, Luke 14:11, 18:14]
 - ✧ They devour widows houses by their health, wealth and prosperity doctrines.
 - ✧ Encouraging people to give far beyond their means with promises that God will reward their gift a hundred fold, just to enrich themselves.
 - ✧ In pretense (hypocrisy), they make long prayers.
 - ✧ Because of their position as teachers and religious leaders of Israel, the Scribes will receive the greater condemnation in Judgment for the things they did to lead the people astray by their doctrines of men.

- ✧ These will receive **greater condemnation**. [Matthew 23:14, Mark 12:40, Luke 20:47]
- ✧ My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a **stricter judgment**. [James 3:1]