

sin that required heroic treatment and these never failed to kindle the flame of His high and holy indignation. Spiritual pride was one of them; self-righteousness was another, covetousness was another; oppression of the weak was another. But the one that kindled the hottest flame of His anger was that hypocrisy that harbored a spirit of evil within while it carried a fair profession without. Twelve times in the lesson I have read He hurled His anathemas against it. Seven times out of the twelve He addressed them as "hypocrites"; twice He calls them "blind guides"; twice He calls them "fools and blind"; and once He addressed them as a "generation of vipers." But of all His withering words against sham and the false exterior of life this figure of the text is perhaps the most scathing and rebuking of them all: "For ye are like unto whited sepulchres which indeed appear beautiful outward, but within are full of dead men's bones and of all uncleanness."

The imagery behind this denunciation was one that would make a very powerful appeal to the vivid imagination of every Jewish mind. These whited sepulchres gleaming in the sun