

For the Love of an Imperative Verb Matthew 23:1-12

add translations and comments

¹Then Jesus said to the crowds and his disciples, ²"The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat; ³therefore **do** [ποιήσατε, **poiēsate**] whatever they teach you and **follow** [τηρεῖτε, **tēreíte**] it; but **do** not **do** [ποιεῖτε, **poieíte**] as they do, for they do not practice what they teach. ⁴They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others; but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. ⁵They do all their deeds to be seen by others, for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. ⁶They love to have the places of honor at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues, ⁷and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have people call them rabbi. ⁸But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students. ⁹And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father—the one in heaven. ¹⁰Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. ¹¹The greatest among you will be your servant. ¹²All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted. [NRSV89]

23:3

ποιήσατε, **poiēsate**; *vb: aor act imperative 2nd pers pl* from ποιέω

translations: **do** [NRSV89, NGEINT, NRSVue], also **observe** [NKJV], **haced** [IAdNT]

τηρεῖτε, **tēreíte**; *vb: pres act imperative 2nd pers pl* from τηρέω

translations: **follow** [NRSV89, NRSVue], also **do** [NKJV], **keep** [NGEINT], **guardad** [IAdNT]

ποιεῖτε, **poieíte**; *vb: pres act imperative 2nd pers pl* from ποιέω

translations: **do** [not] **do** [NRSV89, NGEINT, NKJV, NRSVue], also **hagáis** [IAdNT]

Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Gene Crossett, Jr.

March 3, 2023

March 19, 2023