otherwise doing so,—and thus shutting  
the kingdom of heaven in men’s faces.

**CHAP. XII. 1—12.]** WARNING AGAINST HYPOCRISY.   
A discourse spoken immediately   
or very soon after the former, and  
in connexion with it;—consisting for the  
most part of sayings repeated from other  
occasions, and found nearly verbatim in  
Matthew. It is impossible that there   
should be any reasonable doubt of this  
view, when we remember that some of  
them have appeared before, or appear  
again, in this very Gospel.

While our Lord was in the house of the Pharisee, the   
multitudes appear to have assembled together again.   
If so, in the **mean time**, or  
**during which things**, will mean while  
those related above were happening.

He comes forth to them (ch. xi. 53) in the  
spirit of the discourse which He has just  
completed, and cautions His disciples  
against that part of the character of the  
Pharisees which was most dangerous to  
*them.* The connexion of these twelve  
verses may be thus enunciated :—*Beware  
of hypocrisy* (ver. 1), *for all shall be made evident  
in the end* (ver. 2), and *ye are  
witnesses and sharers in this unfolding of*  
*the truth* (ver. 3). I*n this your work, ye  
need not fear men; for your Father has  
you in His keeping* (vv. 4—7)—*and the  
confession of my name is a glorious thing*(ver. 8), *but the rejection of it* (ver. 9),  
*and especially the ascription of my works  
to the evil one* (ver. 10), *a fearful one.*  
*And in this confession ye shall be helped  
by the Holy Spirit in the hour of need* (vv.   
11, 12).

**4.] my friends**: see John xv.