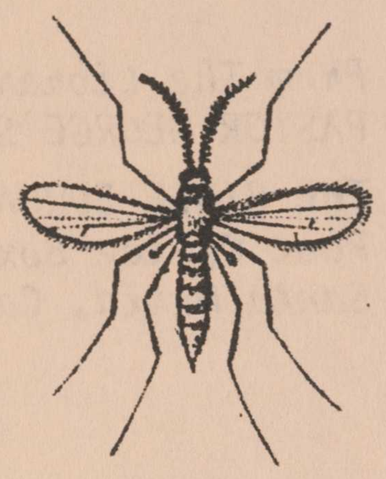
THE BIG GULP!!

"Ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat and swallow a camel." ...JESUS *Matthew 23:24*

Oh, how hypocrisy can swallow most anything! Even a camel...THE BIG LIE! And, now-a-days even a sacred white elephant!



Matthew Henry said: 'Hypocrites do the devil's drudgery in Christ's livery.'

The Greek word 'SWALLOW' means: "To drink down, ie, To gulp entire (Literally or Figuratively).

THE COTTAGE BIBLE note: "You affect to scruple little things, and disregard those of the greatest moment."

BARNES BIBLE DICTIONARY tells us their are 16 insects mentioned in the Bible (in the Middle East) out of a number not yet satisfactorily settled. Wow!

In the older English translation Jesus' phrase is rendered *"strain out a gnat,"* and this is the sense of meaning.

The custom was to pass wine and other liquors through a strainer, that no gnats or flies might get into the cup and be assimilated.

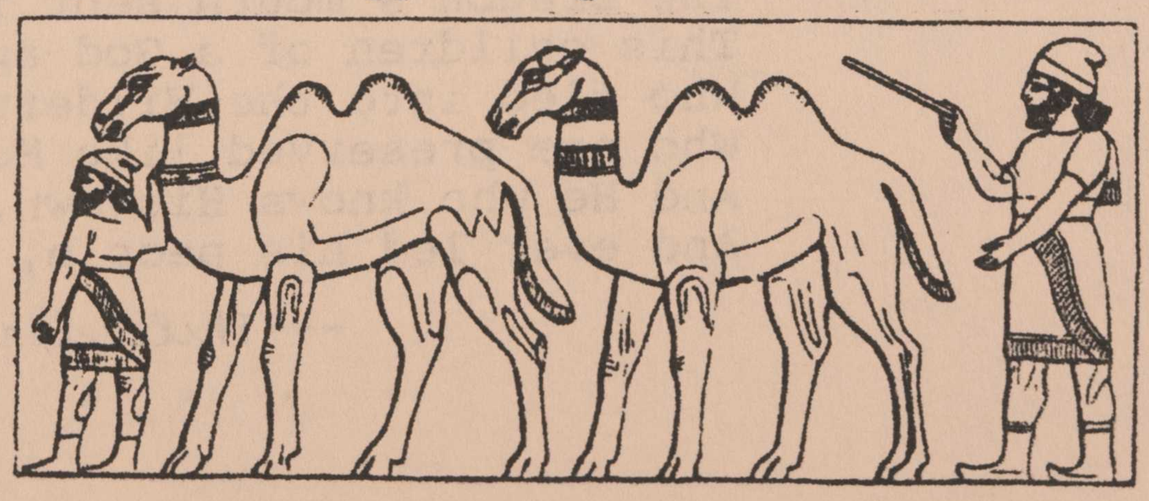
For Among unclean animals, the Rabbi's reckoned flies; and on that account were particularly careful to strain their wine...

This expression of Jesus: *"to strain out a gnat and swallow a camel,"* was evidently proverbial. The sense of meaning is as follows..."Who carefully avoid the slightest transgressions of the ceremonial part of your religion; while, without scruple or remorse, ye commit the grossest offences against the moral and spiritual part of the Law."

A parallel proverb used in the Orient similar to the camel maxim how Jesus said: *"...It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God." Matt. 19:24* Is as follows: "Just as soon will the elephant pass through the spout of a kettle!"

Jesus spoke directly to the Pharisees; those who are superstitiously anxious to avoid small faults, and yet do not scruple to commit the greatest of sins...

The Pharisee! Oh, the Pharisee! Legalist! Hypocrisy is oftenest clothed in the garb of religion!

The Pharisee has no true discernment of the merciful purposes of God...

HUMAN RELIGION! *"Blind guides"*.. *"The voice is Jacob's voice,"* but-- *"The hands are the hands of Esau."*