

“Thou Shall Not Judge”
Matthew 7:1-6

I. Jesus commands us not to view others self-righteously (vs. 1-2).

A. What does it mean to judge?

1. Judge means to differentiate between good and evil.
2. Judging is actually right to do when it is done correctly: God wants us to discern between right and wrong.

B. The standard in which you judge, you will be judged in return.

(Isaiah 5:20-23; Luke 6:37-38; 18:9-14; Acts 16:4, 15; 20:16; 23:6; 26:8; 27:1; Romans 2:1; 14:5, 13; 1 Corinthians 2:2; 7:37; 11:13; 2 Corinthians 2:1; 5:14; Galatians 6:13; Titus 3:12; James 2:10-13)

II. Jesus teaches about right judgement (vs. 3-5).

A. Before you judge sin in somebody else, first take a look at yourself.

B. Make sure that you judge with right standards.

(John 7:19-24; 1 John 1:9; 1 Corinthians 11:31-32)

III. Jesus warns that some despise that which is holy and righteous (v. 6).

A. Do not focus on those who reject the Gospel.

B. Focus on those who have demonstrated themselves to be faithful.

(Matthew 11:25; 13:11-13; 2 Timothy 2:2; 2 Peter 2:1-3; 10b-15; 17-22)

Scripture References and Notes

judge

κρίνω (krinó)

- to judge, decide

- I judge, whether in a law-court or privately: sometimes with cognate nouns emphasizing the notion of the verb, (b) I decide, I think (it) good.
- properly, to separate (distinguish), i.e. judge; come to a *choice* (decision, judgment) by making a *judgment* – either positive (a verdict in favor of) or negative (which rejects or condemns).

2 Corinthians 5:14

For the love of Christ controls us, **having concluded** this, that one died for all, therefore all died...

Acts 20:16

For Paul **had decided** to sail past Ephesus so that he would not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hurrying to be in Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost.

Acts 27:1

When **it was decided** that we would sail for Italy, they proceeded to deliver Paul and some other prisoners to a centurion of the Augustan cohort named Julius.

Titus 3:12

When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, make every effort to come to me at Nicopolis, for **I have decided** to spend the winter there.

Acts 16:4

Now while they were passing through the cities, they were delivering the decrees which had been **decided upon** by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem, for them to observe.

Acts 16:15

And when she and her household had been baptized, she urged us, saying, “If **you have judged** me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

1 Corinthians 2:2

For **I determined** to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.

2 Corinthians 2:1

But **I determined** this for my own sake, that I would not come to you in sorrow again.

Romans 14:5

One person **regards** one day above another, another **regards** every day *alike*. Each person must be fully convinced in his own mind.

1 Corinthians 7:37

But he who stands firm in his heart, being under no constraint, but has authority over his own will, and **has decided** this in his own heart, to keep his own virgin *daughter*, he will do well.

1 Corinthians 11:13

Judge for yourselves: is it proper for a woman to pray to God *with her head* uncovered?

Acts 26:8

Why **is it considered** incredible among you *people* if God does raise the dead?

Acts 23:6

But perceiving that one group were Sadducees and the other Pharisees, Paul *began* crying out in the Council, “Brethren, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees; **I am on trial** for the hope and resurrection of the dead!”

Isaiah 5:20-23

²⁰ Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness; Who substitute bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter! ²¹ Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes And clever in their own sight! ²² Woe to those who are heroes in drinking wine And valiant men in mixing strong drink, ²³ Who justify the wicked for a bribe, And take away the rights of the ones who are in the right!

Luke 18:9-14

⁹ And He also told this parable to some people who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt: ¹⁰ “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.’ ¹³ But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, the sinner!’ ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Romans 2:1

Therefore you have no excuse, everyone of you who passes judgment, for in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.

Galatians 6:13

For those who are circumcised do not even keep the Law themselves, but they desire to have you circumcised so that they may boast in your flesh.

Luke 6:37-38

³⁷ “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; and do not condemn, and you will not be condemned; pardon, and you will be pardoned. ³⁸ Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure—pressed down, shaken together, *and* running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return.”

James 2:10-13

¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one *point*, he has become guilty of all. ¹¹ For He who said, “DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY,” also said, “DO NOT COMMIT MURDER.” Now if you do not commit adultery, but do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹² So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by *the* law of liberty. ¹³ For judgment *will be* merciless to one who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 Corinthians 11:31-32

³¹ But if we judged ourselves rightly, we would not be judged. ³² But when we are judged, we are disciplined by the Lord so that we will not be condemned along with the world.

John 7:19-24

¹⁹ “Did not Moses give you the Law, and *yet* none of you carries out the Law? Why do you seek to kill Me?” ²⁰ The crowd answered, “You have a demon! Who seeks to kill You?” ²¹ Jesus answered them, “I did one deed, and you all marvel. ²² For this reason Moses has given you circumcision (not because it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and on *the* Sabbath you circumcise a man. ²³ If a man receives circumcision on *the* Sabbath so that the Law of Moses will not be broken, are you angry with Me because I made an entire man well on *the* Sabbath? ²⁴ Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment.”

2 Peter 2:1-3; 10b-15; 17-22

¹ But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves. ² Many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of the truth will be maligned; ³ and in *their* greed they will exploit you with false words; their judgment from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.

^{10b} Daring, self-willed, they do not tremble when they revile angelic majesties, ¹¹ whereas angels who are greater in might and power do not bring a reviling judgment against them before the Lord. ¹² But these, like unreasoning animals, born as creatures of instinct to be captured and killed, reviling where they have no knowledge, will in the destruction of those creatures also be destroyed, ¹³ suffering wrong as the wages of doing wrong. They count it a pleasure to revel in the daytime. They are stains and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions, as they carouse with you, ¹⁴ having eyes full of adultery that never cease from sin, enticing unstable souls, having a heart trained in greed, accursed children; ¹⁵ forsaking the right way, they have gone astray, having followed the way of Balaam, the *son* of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;

¹⁷ These are springs without water and mists driven by a storm, for whom the black darkness has been reserved. ¹⁸ For speaking out arrogant *words* of vanity they entice by fleshly desires, by sensuality, those who barely escape from the ones who live in error, ¹⁹ promising them freedom while they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by what a man is overcome, by this he is enslaved. ²⁰ For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and are overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. ²¹ For it would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn away from the holy commandment handed on to them. ²² It has happened to them according to the true proverb, "A DOG RETURNS TO ITS OWN VOMIT," and, "A sow, after washing, *returns* to wallowing in the mire."

Matthew 11:25

At that time Jesus said, "I praise You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from *the* wise and intelligent and have revealed them to infants.

Matthew 13:11-13

¹¹ Jesus answered them, "To you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been granted. ¹² For whoever has, to him *more* shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has shall be taken away from him. ¹³ Therefore I speak to them in parables; because while seeing they do not see, and while hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.

2 Timothy 2:2

The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.