

How are Christians to Judge Others.

Matt. 7:1 – 2

- I. What is our judgment of others?
  - A. **Matthew 7:1 - 2** *"Judge not, that ye be not judged. (2) For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again."* – This is our warning, be careful whom you judge and how you judge them.
  - B. The Lord never told us not to judge others, but to judge them rightly. When we judge others, we need to remember that a careful righteousness is essential in a believer's judgment.
  - C. Our goal as Christians is to make sure that we are righteous in every walk-in life. Everything we do is to be in love. **Philippians 1:9-11** *"And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ; Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God."*
  - D. As Children of God, we want to walk carefully and in the Love that God has given to us. Therefore, if a Christian believes all that they hear, and accepts all sorts of claims will not judge well. The example is rumors, they are not always facts of truth.
  - E. We must understand in our judgement, that we do not need to "play God" and condemned other people but we all need to be considered that God would one day judge us. Not for our sins, but on how we lived according to his word.
- II. Our judgment is about other believers and "counterfeit" believers. This is also of churches and "counterfeit" churches.
  - A. **Matthew 7:6** *"Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you."*

- B. As God's people, that is, as Christians and churches, we are privileged of God to handle the Holy things of the Lord.
1. The church has many Holy things that is in our care. The gospel, the Truth of the bible – a pillar and ground, baptism, the Lord's Supper. And other things that we are to hold dear to our hearts.
  2. **2 Corinthians 4:6-7** *"For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us."*
- C. The Lord commanded that we as Christians and churches, *"Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine..."* V. 6
1. What did the Lord mean here? Are we not commanded to carry the gospel to every "human"? **Mark 16:15** *"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."*
  2. If we discriminate in our giving of the gospel, are we not cheapening the gospel's purpose and our work as Christians and churches?
  3. As sowers of the Gospel, why if we decide that certain people are a waste of time to sow seed, why if we decide that certain communities, or nations, or anyone is worthless to preach too. **Mark 4:15 - 16** *"And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts. (16) And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness;"* See how much damage judgment without love first can hurt.
  4. But, the Lord said, *"Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them*

*under their feet, and turn again and rend you."* So, what does this mean?

- A. The "holy thing" is something commonly recognized as sacred. Which to us would be the pillar and ground of Truth.
  - B. The Lord specified "dogs" and "swine" *"Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine"* both are considered unclean but here both are used in a metaphorical way, we would never give anything holy to a dog or a pig.
  - C. Who are the dogs? Albert Barnes said *"Dogs" signify people who spurn, oppose, and abuse that doctrine; people of special sourness and of evil temper, who meet it like growling and quarrelsome curs"*
  - D. Barnes also defined the Swine's, *"Swine" denote those who would trample the precepts underfoot; people of impurity of life; those who are corrupt, polluted, profane, obscene, and sensual; those who would not know the value of the gospel, and who would tread it down as swine would pearls"*
  - E. So according to the definition of the scripture, we are not offering true doctrine to those violent and abusive people who would bark and curse us for it.
5. Our judgment must be not on what we think, but what we know. The gospel is the message to the world. Arguing and debate is useless, carrying it to people who hate it is useless.
6. **2 Peter 2:22** *"But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire."* - It is important that for us to remember that these "counterfeit Christians and churches" are not truly born-again people.
7. As Christians and churches this is our goal in judging people. **Jude 1:17 - 21** *"But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ; (18) How*

*that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts. (19) These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit. But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life."*