

## **STOP JUDGING ME** **(Matthew 7:1-6)**

- I. The misuse of the words of Jesus.**
  - A. Many times people will tell us that all types of judgments are wrong.
  - B. If you offer criticism of someone this verse gets thrown up at you.
    - 1. If you point out a fault in someone you hear this.
    - 2. Many times, if it is said with the best intentions and meant to be constructive you hear it still.
  - C. When church discipline is discussed this has been brought up as a reason not to do such.
    - 1. When discipline is exercised there must be judgments made about the moral or spiritual condition of someone.
    - 2. Since judgment is involved, some feel this passage rules out church discipline.
  - D. When pointing out a false doctrine someone has espoused, many run to Matthew 7 to condemn you for doing so.
    - 1. It definitely requires a judgment to determine if a doctrine being taught is false or not.
    - 2. Again, because of verses 1-2, some will say we cannot speak out against those that teach error.
  - E. It doesn't take an Einstein to see how ridiculous these statements are but yet, they are still made from time to time.
- II. Jesus did not rule out all forms of judgment.**
  - A. Look at this passage in Matthew 7.
    - 1. This very text tells us that some judgments must be made.
    - 2. Vs. 6 implies we have got to figure out who are dogs and who are hogs.
      - a. If we can't, how are we to know when not to give that which is holy to dogs?
      - b. How can we know when not to cast our pearls before swine?
    - 3. 7:15-20 implies that we have to make judgments in order to determine who is a false teacher.
  - B. Other passages teach that Christians have to be able to make judgments.
    - 1. John 7:24.
    - 2. Christians have to be able to judge their own brethren (1 Corinthians 5:9-13).
    - 3. The apostle of love told us to "try the spirits" (1 John 4:1).
  - C. There is absolutely no contradiction found in the New Testament about this topic as we'll see.
- III. Jesus defined the type of judging He condemned.**
  - A. It is sinful to judge when blind to our own faults.
    - 1. Matthew 7:3-5.
    - 2. It is wrong for us to concentrate on the speck in another's eye while ignoring the beam in our own eye.
    - 3. There needs to be proper viewing of self when seeking to restore

- erring brethren (Galatians 6:1).
  - B. It is sinful to judge without love and mercy.
    - 1. As one commentator said, "The Lord is here condemning the spirit of censoriousness, judging harshly, self-righteously, without mercy, without love..."
    - 2. Notice James 2:13.
      - a. If we judge without mercy, we won't receive mercy when the Lord judges us.
      - b. Jesus said the same things (Matthew 7:2).
  - C. What is implied is not that we shouldn't judge, but that when we do, we will be judged by the same standards we use.
- IV. Jesus implied there are times we must judge.**
- A. It is only after we have corrected our own faults (Matthew 7:5).
    - 1. Only then can we discern properly and are able to help others who are overcome in faults.
    - 2. This does not mean we have to be sinless or no one would ever be able to fulfill our duties to correct and admonish one another.
    - 3. The Law of Christ requires us to (Galatians 6:1-2).
  - B. We have to be able to judge those who are worthy and those who are hogs and dogs (Matthew 7:6).
    - 1. Some are not worthy of that which is holy.
    - 2. Since some are hogs or dogs, we must be able to determine who is which and this requires judgment.
    - 3. With those who are receptive we have the responsibility to be patient (2 Timothy 2:24-26).
    - 4. But for those who aren't we can't waste what is good and holy on them.
      - a. Matthew 10:12-15.
      - b. Acts 13:42-46.

Not an original outline but can't remember source.