

Righteous Judgment and Love

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Righteous Judgment

Two sides of Judging – Mt.7:1-5

True Judgment and Judging Rightly

- Jesus judging the WOMAN CAUGHT IN ADULTERY – Jn.8:1-11
 - Jesus was more concerned with the accusers
 - V.11 - Neither do I condemn you, go and sin no more
 - Jn.8:15-16 – “I judge no one but if I judge my judgment is true”
- JESUS JUDGING HYPOCRISY - Mt.23:25-28

Discerning of Spirits or Critical Spirit?

- Judgment Affects Your Brain and Your Body Chemistry
- Judging without facts stops your ability to perceive the truth
 - FOR THE RIGHT JUDGMENT WE MUST SEE THE “WHAT” AND THE “WHY” –
 - Judging without the facts, based on our feelings is foolish
 - We cannot see the WHY, but you can ask to find out, and often it is not enough
 - ASSUMING YOU KNOW WHY OTHERS DO SOMETHING is self deception
 - This is not a Word of Knowledge or Discernment, but a Critical Spirit

Self-Righteousness and Hypocrisy

- Mt.7:3-5 - People who judge must be careful about the planks in their eyes, compared to the speck they judge
 - Be careful about the “I am better than you” attitude of SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS
 - Filtering perception of preconceived attitude
 - Reticular Activating System (Gate Keeper) changes the chemistry of your body and your perception
 - TO SEE THE TRUTH YOU MUST INTERRUPT THE PATTERN OF JUDGING
 - Not Judging by appearances, but righteous judgment – Jn.7:27

EXAMPLES of many Judgments in New Testament

- 1Cor.15:11-12 – Do not associate with... Is this judging?
- 1Cor.5:4-8 – Deliver such one to Satan
- Tit.3:10 – As for the person who stirs up division, after warning him once or twice, have nothing to do with him

What We Judge Matters –

Telling Others What to Do?

- CORRECTION IS FOR HELPING THEM, IF YOU KNOW HOW
- PEOPLE HURTING OTHERS, you or themselves should be stopped if possible – 2Tim.4:2
- PEOPLE SINNING SHOULD BE HELPED – Eph.4:15 – Speaking the truth in love
 - Even if it hurts - Pro.27:6 – Faithful are the wounds of a friend
- SOME THINGS YOU SHOULD NOT JUDGE AT ALL – It is none of your business
 - Is it important?
 - Is it your area of responsibility?
 - Is it just your opinion?
 - Do you know how to do it? Will you produce more damage than good?

How to Judge and Help

Your Attitude is the Key

Spirit of Humility

- Gal.6:1-4 – IN SPIRIT OF HUMILITY (You are not better but for what Jesus has done)

Mercy and Forgiveness in Judging Affects Our Relationship with God

- **Lk.17:1-3 – OFFENSES (Tempting to sin) WILL COME**
 - Offense is when people violate the scriptures and cause you to stumble
 - Be careful – Don't judge, walk in love
 - You get a feeling -> Want to judge
 - You may ask: "What do you mean with that?"
 - Sinning against you 7 times – **Lk.17:4**
 - **Mt.18:15-18** – If a brother sins against you
 - ✦ The objective is restoration and reconciliation, but it does not work all the time
- **Mt.18:21-35 – UNMERCIFUL SERVANT did not judge and did not forgive – and was judged**
 - PEOPLE DO NOT HURT US –
 - We pass judgment and react
 - Just separate the **WHAT**, not the **WHY**
 - FORGIVING 70 TIMES 7
- To be free from suffering you must be willing to forgive

Walk in Love and Plant Your Harvest – Eph.5:2

- **HOW YOU MEASURE OUT** determines what will get back to you - **Lk.6:36-38**
 - If you judge, you will be judged, by others and yourself –
 - Be like your Father – Forgive – **Mt.5:48**
- You cannot be happy or healthy and having a judging spirit
 - To be healthy you walk in Love, not Judgment –

Questions to Consider

1. How are the two sides of judging related to each other?
2. How can we determine if we have a critical spirit and what should we do about it?
3. Why is self-righteousness always the result of hypocrisy?
4. How can you determine what you should and what you should not judge?
5. What can we learn from Gal.6:1-4?
6. What does Lk.17:4 help us to understand?
7. What does walking in love mean?
8. What personal experiences do you have concerning Lk.6:36-38?