

The Right and Wrong of Judging Others

Matthew 7:1-6

Introduction:

- Generally, people are quick to j_____
- Jesus desires His followers to avoid wrong judgments and to know how to judge correctly.

Remember the p_____ of hypocritical judgment (1,2)

Do not judge so that you will not be judged. For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure it will be measured to you.

- This is not prohibiting e_____ kind of judgment
 1. 1Cor 5:12 – we are commanded to judge those within the c_____ who are persisting in sin.
 2. Matt 7:15,19 – we are to judge those claiming to be a prophet of God by their f_____.
- This is a prohibition against constantly playing judge
 1. It could be translated, s_____ *constantly judging*
 2. The P_____ were known for playing judge
- The penalty for hypocritical judgment is c_____ - some think this to refer to condemnation by God, but I think it means condemnation by others.

Remember the p_____ of self-judgment (3-5)

- Jesus gives a humorous picture of two f_____ Jews (this can be applied to believers in Christ) walking about, each having something in one of their eyes.
 1. One has a _____. The other has a _____.
 2. The one with the log in his eye attempts to _____ the splinter from the other one's eye.
- Jesus counsels us to
 1. F_____, remove the log out of our own eye.
 - a. This requires us to judge ourselves before God and to r_____ of any sin
 - b. This means that we do not i_____ to repeat that sin.
 2. Then, remove the splinter from your fellow believer's eye
 - a. This is the attempt to r_____ a person who is persisting in sin (Matt 18:15)
 - b. This requires love and g_____ (Gal 6:1)

Remember the p_____ of poor judgment (6)

- Jesus uses the metaphor of _____ and _____.
 1. Dogs – these were the w_____ dogs that were always looking for food.
 2. Hogs – these were domestic pigs and were considered u_____ by the Mosaic Law.
- What might happen if you feed a wild dog? – It might come after you, demanding more, and may t_____ you to pieces to get it.
- What might happen if you feed pearls to pigs?
 1. The pigs expect the pearls to be f_____
 2. When they realize it is not, they will expect you to have their food and will t_____ you as they try to find it.
- Jesus does not explain the metaphor, but there is a general understanding of the words that may help us.
 1. *Don't give what is h_____* - This refers to the things of God.
 2. *To dogs, to swine* – commonly used to refer to un_____.
- Examples
 1. Giving God's m_____ to a televangelist who lives "high on the hog."
 2. Trying to witness to those who react v_____ to the gospel (e.g. Acts 7:57,58)
 3. Trying to witness to those who react by r_____ (e.g. Acts 13:46,47)
 4. Sharing confidential matters with a g_____ (Pr 20:19)