

**SERMON SERIES: MISSION 2022  
SERMON: JUDGING BLIND  
1-30-22**

**Media: Show all scriptures and numbered points**

**REVIEW: Mission 2022**

**OPENER:**

**Story:**

**A young couple moved into a new neighborhood.**

**The next morning while they are eating breakfast, the young man looks over at their neighbor's driveway and notices that the guy next door has a new white F150 Ford truck!**

**"That truck is not very clean," he said. "Why would he spend all that money on a new truck and not wash it? His wife looked on, but remained silent.**

**Every time they were at their kitchen table, the young man would make the same comments.**

**About one month later, the man was surprised to see a nice clean washed truck sitting next door in the driveway. "Look, he finally washed his truck!**

**The wife said, "I got up early this morning and cleaned our windows."**

***Matthew 7:1-7 (NLT) "Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. <sup>2</sup> For you will be treated as you treat others. The standard you use in judging is the standard by which you will be judged.***

***<sup>3</sup> "And why worry about a speck in your friend's eye when you have a log in your own? <sup>4</sup> How can you think of saying to your friend, 'Let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,' when you can't see past the log in your own eye? <sup>5</sup> Hypocrite! First get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend's eye.***

**What did Jesus mean when he said, "Judge not, and you will not be judged?" Should Christians judge people? It's one of the most misused, misquoted, misunderstood verses in the Bible.**

**When someone wants to justify their life choices to you, they pull out their trump card, "Don't judge me"! Then they drop the mic.....expecting you to immediately embrace the fact that they want to cheat on their spouse, steal money from the company they work for, lie to their boss about their timesheet, not keep the promise to their kids to show up at the school function...whatever!**

**WHAT DID JESUS MEAN?**

**Jesus goes on to say.....*Vs, 2: (NLT) For you will be treated as you treat others. The standard you use in judging is the standard by which you will be judged.***

The Greek word, “judge” here means to: to separate, to divide, to come to a decision , to condemn, punish, to take revenge, to draw conclusions

So, Jesus is saying.....Do not.....

> condemn someone (pass a sentence; that’s what they deserve)

> or punish someone

> or take your revenge against someone

> or draw quick conclusions about someone

Or I will judge you in the same way! ..... condemn, punish and pay your back for your wrongs!

**JESUS WARNS THAT THE DANGER IN PASSING JUDGMENT ON OTHERS IS  
THAT WE’LL HAVE OUR OWN STANDARD  
COME BACK ON US.**

**IF WE DEAL HARSHLY WITH OTHERS GOD WILL DEAL HARSHLY WITH US.**

**EXAMPLES:**

> A friend wrongs you so you punish them by not talking to them. > Someone makes a mistake and puts themself in a bad place and you rejoice over their hardship.

> Someone spreads lies about you on Facebook and you pay them back by making a post directed toward them!

> You openly criticize someone for something you think they should be doing differently.

> You make a conclusion of what someone needs to do. “If they would just do this or that.”

> Or you decide that this or that person wouldn’t fit into your friend group by the way they look or dress.

**WHAT JESUS DID NOT MEAN**

Many people quote this verse as proof that we should do no judging whatsoever. When Jesus said, “*Do not judge others, and you will not be judged.*” He wasn’t saying that we can’t evaluate whether someone’s choices are wrong. Jesus did that himself on a regular basis (example: Jesus flinging tables in the temple).

**Matthew 7:20 Yes, just as you can identify a tree by its fruit, so you can identify people by their actions.**

**WE ARE NOT TO BE FAULTFINDING BUT WE ARE  
TO BE FRUIT INSPECTING!  
IF A PERSON HAS A PATTERN OF WRONG OR HURTFUL BEHAVIOR THAT  
INFORMATION HELPS US  
MAKE SOUND DECISIONS.**

**MANY OF US SUFFER IN OUR WALK WITH GOD BECAUSE WE DON'T WANT TO APPEAR TO BE JUDGMENTAL.**

**WE ARE TO JUDGE THE SIN BUT NOT CONDEMN THE ONE DOING IT.**

### **1. WE JUDGE BLIND**

**Our problem is that we forget about the REST of the verses that follow the command to judge not. While the verse itself is not be a ban on judgment, it *is* directed squarely back at ourselves!**

***Vs. 3-5 (NLT)“And why worry about a speck in your friend’s eye when you have a log in your own? <sup>4</sup> How can you think of saying to your friend, ‘Let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,’ when you can’t see past the log in your own eye? <sup>5</sup> Hypocrite! First get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend’s eye.***

**SO, THIS VERSE IS A SERIOUS WARNING ABOUT A PARTICULAR TYPE OF JUDGMENT - ONE WE ALL FALL INTO CONSTANTLY - JUDGING BLINDLY.**

**WHEN WE CONDEMN SOMEONE’S BEHAVIOR,  
WHETHER IT’S BLATANTLY SINFUL OR JUST DIFFERENT THAN OUR OWN WE  
ALMOST NEVER USE THE  
PROPER STANDARD OF JUDGMENT.**

**WE PASS JUDGEMENT ACCORDING TO OUR OWN STRENGTHS AND OPINIONS.**

### **ILLUSTRATION:**

**For example, take the issue of gluttony. Because of my DNA, gluttony has never been a huge issue for me. Plus, I don’t gravitate toward things like stress eating (I cope in other sinful ways). When we see someone who struggles with overeating, we project ourself onto them. We immediately assume that they are sinning, they lack self-control, and that all they need is a bit more discipline. This is complete sinful nonsense and a profound lack of love.**

**We are trying to remove the speck from my brother’s eye while we have a big log hanging out of our own eye.**

**When God evaluates that person, he takes into account *everything* about that person:**

- **biology**
- **sinful tendencies**
- **weaknesses**
- **family history**

- current struggles
- and a thousand other factors in their life

**GOD'S JUDGMENT IS PERFECTLY JUST.  
MY JUDGMENT IS TERRIBLY SKEWED.  
WITHOUT OMNISCIENCE, ALL MY JUDGEMENTS ARE  
GOING TO BE OFF KILTE.**

**ILLUSTRATION CONTINUED.....**

For all we know, the person who struggles with gluttony may not actually be sinning in gluttony. They may not overeat at all, but because of their unique body makeup, or a medical issue, they can't lose weight. Or, they may have been neglected as a child and used food as a coping mechanism. I've never experienced anything like this.

**I'M NOT SAYING THAT SIN IS RELATIVE.  
SIN IS SIN - NO MATTER WHAT THE CIRCUMSTANCES.  
BUT WHEN GOD JUDGES A PERSON HIS JUDGMENT  
FLOWS OUT OF HIS OMNISCIENCE.  
THAT'S WHY IT'S PERFECT.**

**WHEN WE PASS JUDGMENT ON A PERSON, WE'RE DOING IT BASED ON  
REALLY, REALLY, REALLY LIMITED KNOWLEDGE.**

**SO OFTEN WE'RE BLIND.**

**2. GOD WILL JUDGE US THE WAY WE JUDGE OTHERS**

It's a terrifying thing to think of God judging us based on the way we judge others. So often, our judgment lacks mercy. It lacks compassion and it lacks knowledge.

Do you want to be judged by God and others with the same standard your use? No! That would be crushing. This is why Jesus warns about the dangers of judging others. If we're not careful, we're going to end up being judged by our own crushing standards.

We can and should call out sin. We should stand for righteousness and godliness. But there's a massive difference between judging arrogantly and judging with humility.

>Arrogant judgment says, "What a despicable, vile, weak person."

>Humble judgement says, "Apart from the redemption of Jesus, I'd be joining them, and apart from God, I would lose my salvation. "

>Arrogant judgment says, "I would never do something like that."

>Humble judgment says, "Though I may not struggle like they do, I sin against Jesus in 10,000 other ways."

>Arrogant judgment says, "I'm better than them."

>Humble judgment says, "We both need Christ."

### **3. OUR JUDGMENT SHOULD BE COVERED BY THE LOVE OF JESUS**

How do we judge others? It seems to me that there is a middle ground. That middle ground is compassionate judgment. Judgement covered by the love of Jesus.

When we see someone sinning.....

> We can acknowledge that it's sin in need of Jesus, but we can also say, "Tell me more."

> We can acknowledge that the sin contradicts the Bible while also working to study the person to understand them more.

> We can work to understand all that's going into their behavior. >How much of it flows out past experiences?

>What did they see modeled in their parents?

>What have they been taught by others?

Sin never comes out of nowhere.

**COMPASSIONATE JUDGEMENT SEEKS TO STAY FAITHFUL TO THE BIBLE AND ALSO LOVE THE PERSON WHO STRUGGLES. IT STRIVES TO IDENTIFY THE SPECK IN SOMEONE ELSE'S EYE WHILE AT THE SAME TIME TRYING TO RIP THE LOG OUT OF OUR OWN.**

**JESUS DID NOT SAY, " DO NOT JUDGE AND YOU WILL NOT BE JUDGED" IN ORDER TO MAKE US MEEK AND MILD PEOPLE WHO CELEBRATE EVERYTHING AND ANYTHING.**

**JESUD SAID IT SO THAT WE WOULD BE SLOW TO JDGE AND SO THAT OUR JUDGMENT WOULD BE DRENCHED IN MERCY.**

### **4. WE MUST JUDGE OURSELVES FIRST**

***Romans 14:10 So why do you condemn another believer? Why do you look down on another believer? Remember, we will all stand before the judgment seat of God***

***12 -13 Yes, each of us will give a personal account to God. 13 So let's stop condemning each other. Decide instead to live in such a way that you will not cause another believer to stumble and fall.***

**When we stand before God, He won't ask us why our friend or family member did what they did. He will ask us to give an account of ourselves.**

**TO MANAGE OURSELVES IS A FULL-TIME JOB.  
THE HOLY SPIRIT DOESN'T NEED US TO DO HIS JOB.**