

Wednesday Refuel “Judge Not Part 2”

The last refuel I did we covered Matthew chapter 7 verses 1-4, tonight I’m going to cover verses 5-6.

Let’s do a quick recap of the first 4 verses.

Mat 7:1 "Judge not, that you be not judged."

The word *Judge* means to criticize, condemn, censor. It is fault-finding; it is being picky, it is sin sniffing. It is the habit of disapproving and nit-picking.¹

- When we criticize and judge, we have a problem: **we forget that we are sinners.**
- We have to always acknowledge our own true condition, when we do we act with care and compassion toward all as they come short.
- When Judging others, **we assume God's authority.**
- When a person criticizes or judges another, he is saying that he is worthy and has the right to be *the Judge* over other lives.
- **He is claiming the right to be God,**

The last Refuel I commented on how

- **It's amazing how so people misinterpret this verse.**
- There are people who try to prohibit **all forms** of judgment.
- Yet These are people who seem to know nothing of the Bible, **yet this is the verse that seems to be most popular.**
- Yet most of the people who quote this verse don't understand what Jesus said.
- They seem to think (or hope) that Jesus commanded a universal acceptance of any **lifestyle** or **teaching** “They love each other” “My body my choice” .
- No matter what happens, they morally say, **“Judge not, that you be not judged.”**

¹ Leadership Ministries Worldwide. (2004). *The Gospel according to Matthew: Chapters 1:1–16:12* (Vol. 1, p. 146). Chattanooga, TN: Leadership Ministries Worldwide.

Matthew 7:2 **For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.**

- The criticizer will be judged for the very same thing he criticizes.
- **Whatever he criticizes, it is that for which he shall be condemned. How frightening!**
- **His condemnation shall be by God Himself, not just by another person.**

Matthew 7:3 **And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye?**

In these verses, the word "**brother**." Translated from the Greek refers to:

1. a *brother* (as a fellow Christian),
2. or a member of the community of disciples.²,
3. or of other religious communities: like the Jewish nation.³

Mat 7:4 **Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank *is* in your own eye?**

- This is a picture of somebody struggling with an easy task of removing a speck of dirt from a friend's eye, while a massive plank in his own eye obscuring his own vision, this is absurd in the extreme.
- Yet when we fall into this mockery and we have a massive log sticking out of our own eye, standing there fault-finding, you have to appreciate the humor.⁴
- In fact, most people don't even see the humor in this parable.
- And It is a humorous picture: A man with a board in his eye trying to help a friend remove a speck from the friend's eye. You can't think of the picture without being amused by it.

² Turner, D., & Bock, D. L. (2005). *Cornerstone biblical commentary, Vol 11: Matthew and Mark* (p. 110). Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House Publishers.

³ Liddell, H. G., Scott, R., Jones, H. S., & McKenzie, R. (1996). *A Greek-English lexicon* (p. 20). Oxford: Clarendon Press.

⁴ Stott, J. R. W., & Stott, J. R. W. (1985). *The message of the Sermon on the mount (Matthew 5-7): Christian counter-culture* (p. 178). Leicester; Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

Starting in verse 5

Mat 7:5 Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

Observation: **Hypocrite!**

Interpretation:

Jesus uses the word hypocrite or hypocrites 15 times in the NKJV in the Gospel of Matthew:

When we look in the gospel of Matthew Jesus paints a great picture of what a hypocrite is:

Mat 6:2 Therefore, when you do a **charitable deed**, do not sound a trumpet before you as the **hypocrites** do in the synagogues and in the streets, **that they may have glory from men**. Assuredly, I say to you, **they have their reward**.

Mat 6:5 "And when **you pray**, you shall not be like the **hypocrites**. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, **that they may be seen by men**. Assuredly, I say to you, **they have their reward**.

Mat 6:16 "Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the **hypocrites**, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they **may appear to men to be fasting**. Assuredly, I say to you, **they have their reward**.

Mat 15:7 **Hypocrites!** Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying: Vs. 8 '**THESE PEOPLE DRAW NEAR TO ME WITH THEIR MOUTH, AND HONOR ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEART IS FAR FROM ME.**'

Mat 16:3 and in the morning, 'It will be foul weather today, for the sky is red and threatening.' **Hypocrites!** You know how to discern the face of the sky, **but you cannot discern the signs of the times.**

Mat 22:18 But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, "Why do you test Me, **you hypocrites?**

Mat 23:13 "But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, **hypocrites!** For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither go in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in.

Mat 23:14 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, **hypocrites!** For you **devour widows' houses**, and for a pretense make long prayers. **Therefore you will receive greater condemnation.**

Mat 23:15 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, **hypocrites!** For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.

Mat 23:23 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, **hypocrites!** For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier **matters** of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone.

Mat 23:25 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, **hypocrites!** **For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence.**

Mat 23:27 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, **hypocrites!** For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are **full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness.**

Mat 23:29 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, **hypocrites!** Because you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, and say, 'If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets.' Vs. 31 "Therefore you are witnesses against yourselves that you are **sons of those who murdered the prophets.**

Mat 24:51 and will cut him in two and appoint *him* his portion with the **hypocrites**. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Hypocrite—

- one who puts on a mask and pretends himself to be what he is not; a dissembler in religion.
- Remember Our Lord severely rebuked the scribes and Pharisees for their hypocrisy (Matt. 6:2, 5, 16).
- The Hebrew word here rendered "hypocrite" rather means the "godless" or "profane," as it is rendered in Jer. 23:11, i.e., polluted with crimes.⁵
- **So to keep it simple a hypocrite is a person who puts on a false appearance of virtue or religion⁶**
- So who is Jesus referring to as the hypocrite? The criticizer, the sin sniffer, the person who is judging.
- Remember this comes from the previous verses.
- Remember the criticizer has way more faults in his own life but is judging the person with lesser faults. Yet the criticizer wants to help.
- When we judge and when we criticize we are HYPOCRITES!!!
- When we sit there judging someone with this pride log sticking out of our eye we are acting as God. How much more hypocritical can this be.
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Application:

The application verse is:

Philippians 2:3-4

*Let nothing be done through **selfish ambition** or **conceit**, but in **lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.** 4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others*

- Selfish ambition is the desire to be number one, no matter what the cost.

⁵ Easton, M. G. (1893). In *Easton's Bible dictionary*. New York: Harper & Brothers.

⁶ Merriam-Webster, I. (2003). *Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary*. (Eleventh ed.). Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster, Inc.

- **Conceit speaks of pride or self-display** which we clearly see in the some of the Pharisees, and is the log or plank in the eye

Observation: **First remove the plank from your own eye,**

Interpretation:

Remember your brother still needs help so have to remove the log from your own eye.

Thank the Lord there is hope for the hypocrite, but he has to remove the plank.

So how do we remove the log from our own eye?

1 .We are to examine ourselves!

1Corinthians 11:28 But let a man **examine himself**, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

- Paul is talking about the Lord's Supper here but if we are going to help a brother out we should do so in a judged condition.
- Sin should be confessed and forsaken; restitution should be made; apologies should be offered to those we have offended.
- This calls for a deep examination not a shallow one!
- In general we should make sure that we are in a proper humble state.

Psalm 139:23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; 24 And see if **there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting.**

- This Psalm is the confession of one who has been in the presence of the Lord and is convicted of his own sinfulness.
- He realizes that he is not aware of all his iniquities and wants the Lord to point them out so they can be dealt with effectively.

Galatians 6:3-4 For if anyone thinks himself **to be something**, when **he is nothing, he deceives himself.**

4 But let each one **examine his own work**, and then he will have **rejoicing in himself alone**, and **not in another.**

- When we see a brother sin, we should remember that it might have been ourselves. For a Christian to have a superiority complex is a form of self-deception this is a log in the eye. BBC
- Instead of deceiving ourselves, **we must take a careful and a clear-headed examination of our works before God.**
- If we don't, we will continue on under our own self-deception, then we may *think* our works "the log" are approved before God, **when really they aren't.**

2. Do not assume the Position of God, he and he alone is the Almighty he and he alone is the Judge. He knows everything.

James 4:11-12: Do not speak evil of one another, brethren. He who speaks evil of a brother and judges his brother, speaks evil of the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge 12: There is one Lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy. Who are you to judge another?

Romans 2:1-3 Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things. 2 But we know that the judgment of God is according to truth against those who practice such things :3 And do you think this, O man, you who judge those practicing such things, and doing the same, that you will escape the judgment of God?

Observation: and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

Interpretation:

After we have judged ourselves honestly before God, dealt with our sins, and have removed those things that blind us, then we can, gently and lovingly come up alongside our brother.

Application:

Ephesians 4:1-3 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, 2. with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, 3 endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

- **Lowliness**—a genuine humility that comes from having a true relationship with Jesus.
- **Lowliness** makes us conscious of our own nothingness and enables us to esteem others better than ourselves. It is the opposite of conceit and arrogance.
- **Gentleness**—the attitude that submits to God's dealings without rebellion, and to man's unkindness without retaliation.

Matthew 7:6 "Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you in pieces.

Observation: Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine,

Interpretation:

Proverbs 23:9 Do not speak in the hearing of a fool, For he will despise the wisdom of your words.

Acts 13:46 Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles.

Hebrews 10:29 Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?

Do not give: is a very strong command!!! THIS IS NOT A CAUTIOUS SUGGESTION.

- This is generally understood of not delivering or communicating the holy word of God, and the truths of the Gospel, to persons disgracefully awful and sinful: people who are violent and furious harassers, and just disrespectful blasphemers, these people are compared to "dogs and pigs: Gill
- But we should keep in mind that for the followers of Jesus there is nothing more holy than the gospel.
- This message is to be offered to all , but there is a limit to the time that is to be given to its stubborn rejecters.
- Disciples are not to be judgmental, but that does not mean that they are to lack discernment.⁷

Application:

Observation: lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you in pieces.

Interpretation:

People clearly do not want to hear the Gospel, and many have paid a heavy price!

⁷ Morris, L. (1992). *The Gospel according to Matthew* (p. 168). Grand Rapids, MI; Leicester, England: W.B. Eerdmans; Inter-Varsity Press.

2Timothy 3:1-5 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:2 For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,³ unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good,⁴ traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,⁵ having a form of godliness but denying its power. **And from such people turn away!**

Look at what is going in our Government, People do not want to hear the Gospel!!!

Application: