

Last week we established that the statement “Do not judge” is not a statement of fact but rather a statement of caution.

The caution is

John 7:24 Judge not according to the appearance, but **judge righteous judgment.**

Now what I did not mention last week and want to mention today is that the judgments we make are not always negative, they could be positive also.

What I mean is, you can accidentally judge someone bad, but you can also accidentally judge someone good.

This is why Jesus says, do not give what is Holy to the dogs and do not cast your pearls to the swine.

The dog and the swine indicate a kind of people. This requires a person to judge.

When it comes to judging, it is not only talking about humans. We also need to judge on the work we do, the places we go, the things we do, the clothes we wear, the purchases we make, and the places we live, etc.

This requires us to hear and be guided by God. Having a spirit of discernment is a gift of the Holy Spirit. We need to ask the Holy Spirit to protect us and guide us in our daily lives and decisions. To keep us from temptation and evil. To pray for wisdom.

Jesus then continues on...

⁷ “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. ⁹ Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰ Or if he asks for a fish, will he give

him a serpent? ¹¹ If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

I know we went ahead of ourselves and touched on this on Wednesday Night, but I want to exegesis and this I want to eisegesis...

Let's look at this in context... In the gospel of Luke, this text is concluded with the following:

Luke 11:13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

This may help explain Matthew 7... good things G18 to them that askG154 him? G846

The Word used good things is G18 and means only "good". Translators added the word things. While this is true God does give us good

things, the Good, that Jesus is talking about is the Holy Spirit.

This is contextual to the subject at hand. Ask God for the Holy Spirit so that you can discern right, be careful of the pitfalls, remove the plank, and help others to remove their speck from their eyes. Which requires the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives.



Now let me eisegesis the text so that we can relates this in our prayer life...

- A) Prayer is important in a believer's life. It recognizes God's work in their life. Some people may say that if God knows what you

need, why do we need to pray? The mechanics of prayer allows you to recognize it is God who provides. Let me explain. Parents, you will get this... Every week many of you go shopping and fill your refrigerator with food. Every day your children go to the refrigerator and open it up and eat the food. While your children recognize there is food in the fridge, very rarely will you receive thanks for shopping or bringing us food. You are taken for granted and the hard work of **going shopping** is overlooked and not truly appreciated.

B) Now imagine not getting food or providing food until your family asks. Then you go out shopping and bring in the food and fill up the fridge. The moment you walk into the house with the groceries you are appreciated. You are recognized and they know you are the one who provided the food

for them. If you're blessed you may even get a hug, a thank you, and a kiss on the cheek and even a tip.

C) When we pray and God provides, we come to realize that it is God.

James 4:2 Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.

James 1:5-6 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. (6) But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.



¹² Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

- A) A verse that seems out of place, but the scripture is tone deaf. In other words, we read but forget emphasis, pauses and expression.
- B) Jesus sums up a majority of what He said by saying in short, how you treat others and how you look at other people will determine how you look to God and how God will look at you. Whether its forgiveness, your treasure, or your prayer

life and asking and receiving, they are all tied to the responsibility of the believer to treat others like they want to be treated. A person cannot disconnect their actions to others and their life on earth to how God will treat them.

James 2:14-17 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? (15) If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, (16) And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? (17) Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

1 John 4:20-21 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? (21) And

this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

¹³ “Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. ¹⁴ Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.”

A) There are two gates people enter in:

1. The Narrow Gate: Difficult is the way to get to it and few find it but it leads to eternal life.

2. The Wide Gate: Spacious or easy is the way to it and many find it but it leads to destruction and damnation.



¹⁵ “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶ You will know them by their fruits.”



Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? (NO)



NOTICE NO THORNS

¹⁷ Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.

¹⁸ A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor *can* a bad tree bear good fruit.

If a person is good, their works and life will be full of goodness and obedience.

If a person is bad their works will be fruitless and disobedience.

(Check your own fruit)

¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

A) A person who does not do good works and follow Christ will be condemned.

B) Don't be ignorant and gullible, look into your life and the life of others and know the difference.

²¹ “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.”

²² Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’

²³ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’

A) A question many people ask when reading this is... How can people who do such great things still not enter eternal life?

They prophesy in His name. Cast out demons in His name. Done many wonders in His name.

The answer to that is the last part... you who practice sin.

The name of Jesus is powerful and there are many people who do things in the name of Jesus. Demons bow down to the name of Jesus, miracles happen because of Jesus. People preach and do things in the name of Jesus. Jesus will be honored because He holds the name above all names. Yet, such a person who does such things and yet continues to live and practice sin will not be saved.

This will include, didn't we go to Harvest and listen to sound biblical teaching. Didn't I get baptized. Didn't I read the bible and pray.

While all these are great and important things to do and should be done regularly, these all should draw you to obedience to Christ.

A person who does all these things and yet continues to live in sin and disobedience will receive the words.. Depart from me you worker of iniquity.

SOLUTION...

²⁴ “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: ²⁵ and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

²⁶ “But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: ²⁷ and the rain descended, the floods came, and the

winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell.
And great was its fall.”



Notice how both of these houses were prone to rain, wind, and floods.

²⁸ And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching, ²⁹ for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.