

City On a Hill 17

Matthew 7:1-6



Mat 5:13-16 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. (14) Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill **cannot** be hid. (15) Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. (16) Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.



By way of review...

- Identity-
Ambassadors
- City on a Hill-
Foundations

Judge Not...



- **(Mat 7:1-2)** Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.
- What exactly does it mean to judge?
 - Secular Perspective- To express a bad opinion of someone's behavior, often because you are better than they are. – Cambridge-
 - Biblical Perspective- κρίνω (krino) Kree-no- Can be legal or even positive, but in this context: To judge, to pronounce an opinion concerning right or wrong, to pronounce judgment, to subject to censure.
- One might say, “Rash Judgement, interpreting man’s words or deeds to the worst sense, and censuring them in a very severe manner; even passing sentence on them, with respect to their eternal state and condition” -John Gill-
- Harsh criticism without compassion or mercy.

God desires us to be productive.

- It really is about how you perceive a person in your heart.
- And there are dangers and consequences:
 - ...that ye be not judged.
 - By Man- A person who censures will rarely garner good will from those around them, often becoming the target of censure themselves.
 - Censure- To express sever disapproval of something, especially in a formal statement. Often Harsh.
 - By God- When you censure others you replace God in His justified position of judgement and wrath and make light of the same.
- If you are a person who censures others you should expect to be censured.



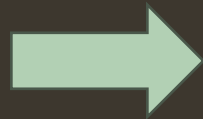
An Easy Trap



- **(Mat 7:3-4)** And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam *is* in thine own eye?
- Wickedness **(Sinful and immoral behavior, outright evil)** an evil are terrible things, so does have a spirit that does not censure a person for their sin excuse behavior and divert justice?
- The role of government in the execution of justice. **(Rom. 13:3-4)**
- The role of God in the lives of individuals. God's Sovereignty is overall, he executes censure in His word, we declare what is in His word no more no less.
- Our hearts should be affixed upon forgiveness, grace, mercy, and desire for the gospel. **(Philippians 4:8)**

Avoid a Spirit That Censures

Ways to
avoid
Having a
Censuring
Spirit



How should we think of sinful behavior, what should be our way of thinking?

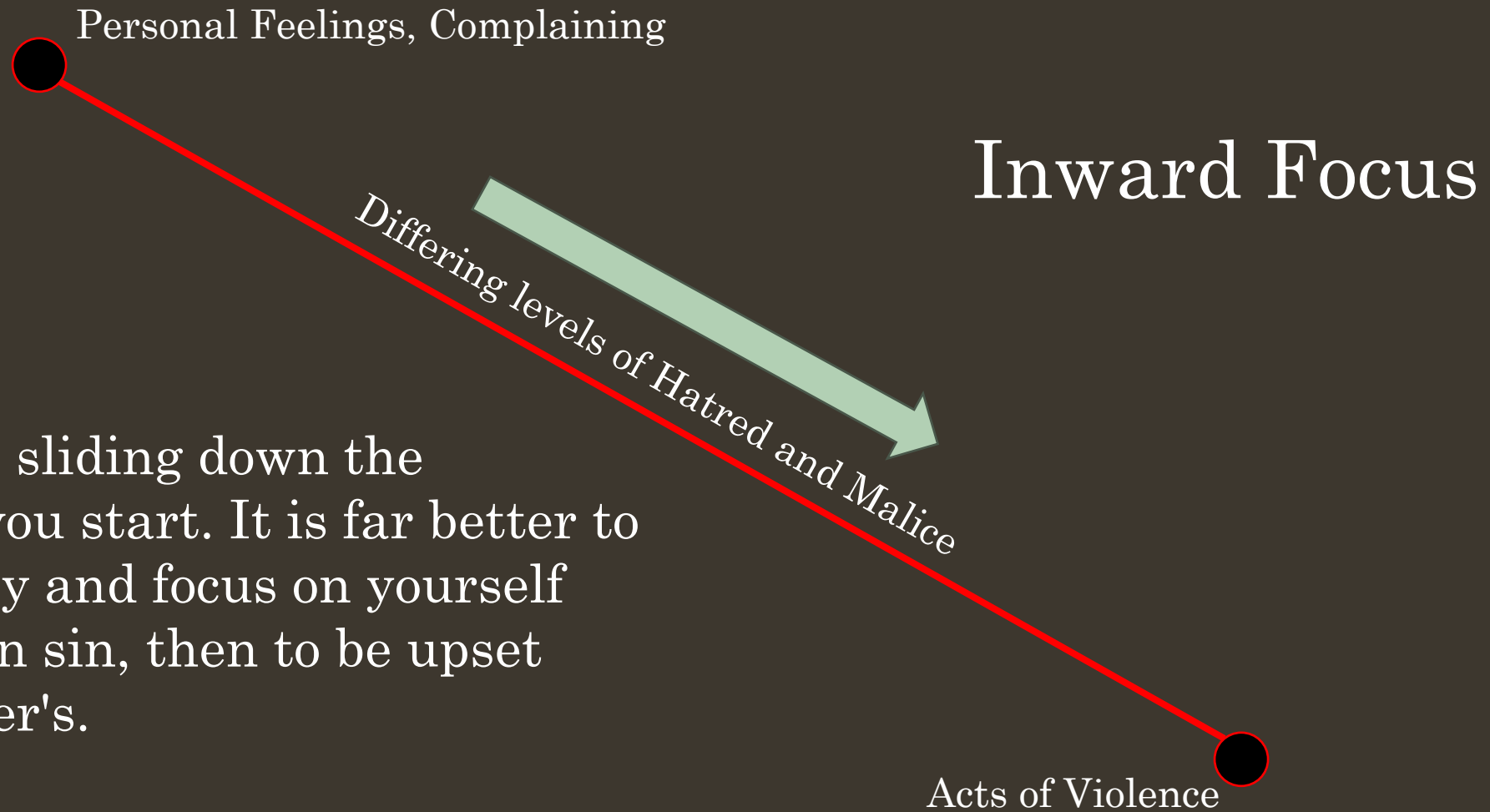
Is it wrong to seek justice when evil or lawlessness is present?

What is the condition of my heart towards this individual or group?

Have I considered my own condition in calculating my response to another's?

Is my pursuit of justice without malice and hatred?

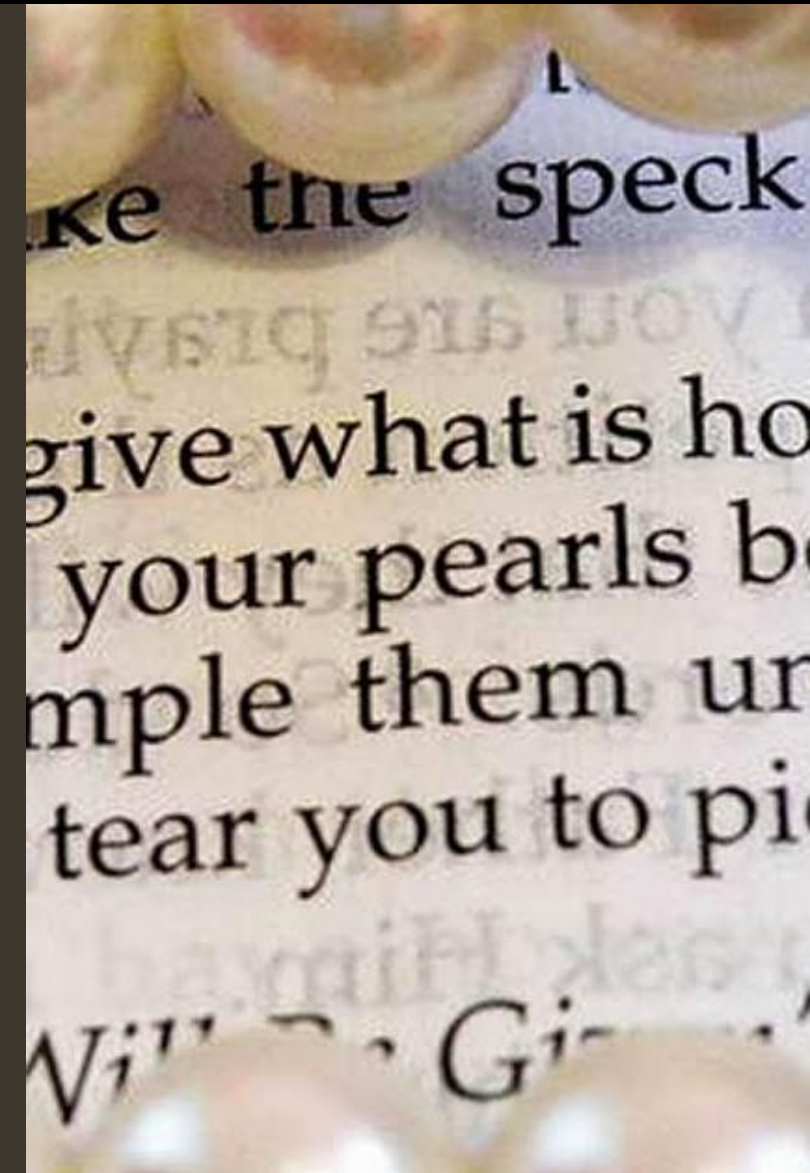
The True Slippery Slope



Hard to stop sliding down the scale when you start. It is far better to look inwardly and focus on yourself and your own sin, then to be upset about another's.

Casting Pearls

- **Mat 7:6** Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.
- Dogs and Pigs were both considered to be unclean. And typically left to the gentiles.
- People who are notoriously vile and evil tend to be wasteful targets of the things of God.
- Don't waste your time arguing with them. This is basic apologetics.
- Its like throwing something valuable into a muddy filthy pig pen to be tramples and lost, and then it is likely the pig will turn on you and attack you.



Proper View Based on Circumstance

When doing things that are good one should always be looking outwardly first. Jesus First, Others second, and saving oneself for last.

When looking at sin or that which is wrong the order is way different. Always in the light of God's Word look at ourselves first then turn over others to God to be judged.

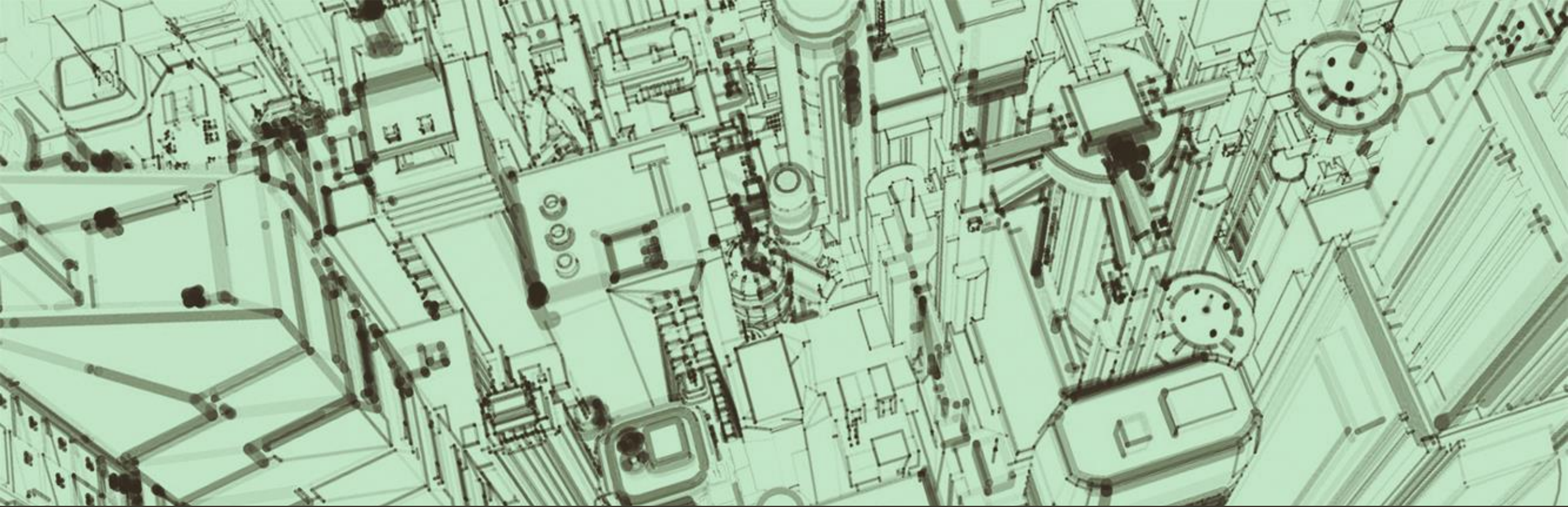
A person is kneeling in a field of tall grass, their back to the camera. Their arms are raised high, hands open, towards a bright sun that is partially obscured by a large, dark cloud. The sun creates a strong lens flare effect. The sky is filled with dramatic, golden-hour clouds. The overall mood is one of awe, hope, and spiritual connection.

Sum it up...

It is all about our hearts, and who we serve.

Hear and Do...

This is how we are light.



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