

Jesus Said That, Pt. 1
“Judge Not”
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Today the words “Do not judge” are used to silence truth, avoid conviction, and dismiss Scripture.

Matthew 7:1-5 (NIV) *“Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. “Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?”*

He did forbid hypocritical judgment BUT commanded us to judge righteously.

1. The World’s Favorite Verse

Matthew 7:1 (NIV) *“Do not judge or you too will be judged.”*

But what happens when you take the context away? The message changes, and the World creates its own message from what Jesus said.

The Gospels and the New Testament instruct us to judge righteously.

Matthew 7:15 (NIV) *“Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.”*

Recognition requires judgement, discernment and evaluation.

2. Jesus Condemns Hypocritical Judgment

Matthew 7:3-5 (NIV) *“Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.”*

James 5:19-20 (NIV) *“...If one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring that person back, remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins.”*

Silence is not LOVE, acceptance is not love, participation in sin is not love...

3. What Righteous Judgment Looks Like

A. Ask (pray) where are my blind spots, where do I need repentance?

B. Judge by Scripture

Allow the clarity of God's Word to be the formation of your judgment.

C. Judge for Restoration

The purpose of righteous judgment is to bring people to the feet of Jesus where true restoration can happen.

D. Judge with Love

Ephesians 4:15 (NLT) says to *"speak the truth in love."*

Truth without love becomes cruelty; love without truth becomes compromise.

E. Never Judge from Superiority

We NEVER judge because we feel that we are better than anyone.

Romans 8:1 (ESV) declares: *"There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."*

Followers of Jesus don't judge less than the world; we judge differently.

- We judge ourselves first
- We judge according to Scripture (in love)
- We judge to bring others up, not knock them down
- We judge with humility, not superiority
- We judge for the purpose of restoration, not condemnation