

Sermon on the Mt
The Measure We Mete
Matt 7:1-6

Introductory thoughts:

Again, we are talking here about lifestyle.

If I am the salt and the light, then I am trying to live a lifestyle.

This is NOT about living an intricate life of do's and don'ts; religiosity, etc.

This is NOT God keeping an intricate record of mistakes and immediately judging us.

It IS about learning to live as His child and Disciple in a fallen world.

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only,
but now much more in my absence, *work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;*
for it is God who works in you both to WILL and to DO for His good pleasure. (Php 2.12-13)

Problem is, when we see the word meter, mete out, we immediately think of a rigid system of pluses and minuses that must be balanced *in order to maintain neutrality.*

This is not about a checklist, but *about living a lifestyle* of love, forgiveness and acceptance

First, define JUDGE: to discern...

Translated in Scripture as judgment, discern 13x; and condemnation or damnation 12x.

If you replace the word "judge" with "discern", it makes no sense! (Discern not, lest you be...)

Second, are we to discern? Yes!

But he who is spiritual, judges all things, (1 Cor 2.15)...(1 Cor 6.2-3)

Do you not know that the Saints will judge the world, and if the world be judged by you,
are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters?

Do you know that we shall judge angels? How much more, things that pertain to this life?

If you replace the above verses with "discern" or "discernment", it makes sense.

But if you replace all those words with condemnation or damnation...*then you see what Jesus is getting at!*

Jesus is saying: Do not condemn; Do not pick on people; Do not jump on their failures; DO NOT live a life of criticizing their faults
Because the measure that you give out, will be given back to you.

Biggest thing?

DO NOT be a hypocrite that focuses on the faults of others **while excusing your own....**'cause baby, you got faults!

SHOULD I MEASURE?

Yes, because we were created to measure; build; solve problems, etc...Adam and Eve...

I hope the guys at Boeing really critically think through the design of their new passenger jet...

I hope the flight instructors critique and discern the faults of the pilots they are training

I hope that surgeon went to a really tough school with strict instructors

I hope: Y critique and analyze every sermon out of this pulpit!

Jesus does not say do not measure *just be very careful what and how you measure.*

HOW SHOULD I MEASURE?

Consider yourself ONLY

The Sermon on the Mt is all about the heart.

Jesus is dealing with not adultery, but lust; not murder, but anger; pride (fasting and prayer), greed, arrogance.
and that's why he says if your eye is dark, then your entire soul is.

If my heart is dark, darkness will come out. If my heart is filled w/ lust, then lust will come out.

If I'm hoarding Mammon, then I will not give. If I'm worrying, is not that a matter of the heart?

Whatever you mete out, will be meted back to you. *In other words, whatever comes out of you will be sent back to you.*

2 Corinthians 10:1-6 NKJV

Now I, Paul, myself am pleading with you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ-
who in presence am lowly among you, but being absent am bold toward you.

But I beg you that when I am present I may not be bold with that confidence
by which I intend to be bold against some, who think of us as if we walked accord to the flesh.

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh.

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,
casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God,
bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,
and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

Anybody in here have a date for when obedience will be fulfilled in your life?

We are absolutely called upon to judge and discern sin and weakness in each other, so we can help that person...
(James) be careful that we don't fall into the same sin!

Consider yourself FIRST

Look at the log in your own eye...COMPARE the beam and speck!

If you are concentrating on your own faults and difficulties only and first, *how much time are you gonna have left to look at the faults of others?*

EXPECT A GOOD RETURN

Expect the meter to run in your favor!

Expect an abundant return!