

Why Do You Judge People?

Matthew 7:1

I. Two Assumptions On The Passage

1. Assume **ALL** judgment must be left with God (period).
2. Assume **NO** judgment can be left with man (period).

I. Two Assumptions On The Passage

II. What Is Wrong With
The 'Usual' View Of Mt.7:1?

1. The accuser condemns himself

- Joe condemns Jim for 'judging' others.
- Joe argues that it is wrong to argue.

The Position:

It is wrong to judge
[correct] people in sin.

Compare:

It is wrong to say
the word 'judge'

2. Would cancel God's judgment

- If first part is absolute (never judge)
... so is second (no future judgment)

1 Judge not [never!] . . .

2 that you be not judged
[never!]

3. Contradicts context (Mt.7:1-16)

- Near context:

- 3-4: see speck in another's eye; overlook log in own; faultfinder
- 5a: hypercritical against others' sins; ignore own
- 5b: kingdom citizens must deal with sin in others
- 6, 15, 16: requires judgment

3. Contradicts the context

- Near context
- **Remote context:**
 - Mt.22, Sadducees
 - Mt.23, Pharisees
 - Mt.24, Jewish nation
 - Mt.25, all nations
 - Ac.13:46, self-judges
 - Ro.3:1-8, their condemnation is just
 - Rv.2:2, tested...found them liars

4. Prevent us from obeying Lord and apostles

- Jn.7:24
- 1 Co.5:1-5 . . . 12-13

Corinthians were non-judging
–as world wants us to be.

Lord condemned them for it.

5. Encourages sin and false doctrines

- Child who is never corrected . . .

¹Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world . . . ⁵They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world, and the world hears them. ⁶We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error – 1 Jn.4.

6. Forbids love of erring brothers

Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted – Gal.6:1

6. Forbids love of erring brothers

¹⁹ Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, ²⁰ let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins – James 5

I. Two Assumptions On The Passage

II. What Is Wrong With The 'Usual' View . . . ?

III. What Does The
Passage Teach?

Problem:

Righteous man may
become self-righteous.

¹ 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 – Ro.2

Prohibition:

'Judge not'

Tattler at school...

Mt.7 forbids hypercritical spirit,
destructive criticism . . .

Assumes worst instead of learning
the facts

Hypocrite (5) – great pretender

Prohibition:

'Judge not'

Hypocrite (5) – great pretender. Why?

1. Shows himself superior to object of his attack.
2. Enjoys cutting someone down to size.
3. Overlooks his own sins.
4. Appears holy. Mt.5:20

Prevention:

'That you be not judged'

Way we judge determines way God judges us (v.2). Cf. 6:14-15.

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? – Ro.2:3

John 7:48-49

Purpose:

'Examine self' (3-4)

Eye: most sensitive part of body?

Jude 22-23

The speck must first be removed (3-4) but NOT by doctor with log in own eye.

Procedure:

'First . . . Then . . . ' (5)

First: remove beam from own eye.

- Mt.26:6-13

Then: eye health (four words)

3: look: stare at his
fault; take notice

3: consider: observe
carefully (not)

4: look! behold!
[Self-examination]

5: see clearly:
stare...look intently

1. David clearly sees sins in others; not in himself, 2 Sm.12:1-7.

2. Later: Ps.51:3 . . . 13

a. Clearly sees his sins

b. Helps other sinners

First: r

- Mt

Then: e,

e.

3: look: stare at his fault; take notice

4: look! behold!
[Self-examination]

3: con sider: observe carefully (not)

5: see clearly:
stare...look intently

Parallel:

1 Co.13

Judgmental spirit is opposite of love

Some callously judged Paul, 1 Co.4:3-5

Analysis of the Text

¹Judge not, that you be not judged.

- Context: Chap.6, negative attitude...
- Bad habit: hasty, negative judgments
- 'Do not judge' – pres. tense
- 'That...not judged' – point action
- Not telling us to quit thinking (v.6)

Analysis of the Text

¹Judge not, that you be not judged. ²For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.

- For: the reason
 - Chrysostom
 - We are held to same standard we impose on others
- Measure: instrument for measuring

Analysis of the Text

¹Judge not, that you be not judged. ²For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.

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

- Speck: small piece of straw, chaff...
- Plank: heavy timber, beam of wood.
- Do not consider: finds small wrong in brother compared to sin God sees in him.

Analysis of the Text

¹Judge not, that you be not judged. ²For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.

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

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

- How can you say?: cannot be taken seriously
- Rebukes hypocritical judging (5) – **what the 'do not judge' people do!**

Analysis of the Text

¹Judge not, that you be not judged. ²For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured back to you. ³And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? ⁴Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye? ⁵Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

- First . . . Then . . . Conclusions:

Analysis of the Text

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

- First remove plank...then... See clearly...

1. Remove speck from **brother's** eye (ct. v.3)
2. One brother to help another (**most ignore this fact**)
3. Even **smallest** defect must be corrected
4. Using Scripture to correct others is not my judging, but the **Lord's**. 1 Co.7:10