

RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT

Based on the command of Christ #15 – “Judge not”.

Luke 6:37-42

37"Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.

38Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

39He also told them this parable: "Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit?

40A student is not above his teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like his teacher.

41"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?

42How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take the speck out of your eye,' when you yourself fail to see the plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

I. When are Christians NOT to judge?

1. Christians are not to judge others when they sin when they themselves do the same thing!

Rom. 2:1-5

1 You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge the other, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things.

2 Now we know that God's judgment against those who do such things is based on truth.

3 So when you, a mere man, pass judgment on them and yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God's judgment?

4 Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you toward repentance?

5 But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed.

a. We're really showing contempt for God and His ways of leading people to repentance - through kindness, tolerance, and patience.

b. We're storing up wrath against ourselves - for as Jesus said back in Luke 7...

"... with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

2. Christians are not to judge other Christians regarding disputable matters!

Rom. 14:1-10

1 Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters.

2 One man's faith allows him to eat everything, but another man, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables.

3 The man who eats everything must not look down on him who does not, and the man who does not eat everything must not condemn the man who does, for God has accepted him.

4 Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. And he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

5 One man considers one day more sacred than another; another man considers every day alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind.

6 He who regards one day as special, does so to the Lord. He who eats meat, eats to the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who abstains, does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God.

7 For none of us lives to himself alone and none of us dies to himself alone.

8 If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.

9 For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living.

10 You, then, why do you judge your brother? Or why do you look down on your brother? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat.

And as such, each of us answers to God as our one and only master.

3. Christians are not to judge people's motives!

1Cor. 4:5 - Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait till the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of men's hearts. At that time each will receive his praise from God.

Jn. 7:24 - Stop judging by mere appearances, and make a right judgment."

Heb. 4:15 - For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are--yet was without sin.

James 1:13 - When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone;

Jn. 8:44 - You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

4. Christians are not to judge unbelievers at all!

1 Cor. 5:12-13

12 What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside?

13 God will judge those outside.

John 3:17-18

17. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

18. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

Judge = (kree'-no) to distinguish, decide (mentally or judicially); by implication, to try, condemn to punishment

Rom. 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

II. When are Christians to judge?

1. Christians are to use the mind of Christ to make judgments about all things!

1 Cor. 2:15-16

15 The spiritual man makes judgments about all things, but he himself is not subject to any man's judgment:

16 "For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

2. Christians are to judge themselves!

1 Cor. 11:31-32

31 But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment.

32 When we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned with the world.

Judge ourselves = (dee-ak-ree'-no) - to separate thoroughly, to withdraw from, to oppose; to discriminate against or, hesitate to trust.

In other words... Don't lean to your own understanding!

Judge/Judgment = (kree'-no) to distinguish, decide (mentally or judicially); by implication, to try, condemn to punishment. (Not eternal)

Disciplined = (pahee-dyoo'-o) to train up a child

Condemned = (kat-ak-ree'-no) The strongest word for judgment... Condemned or damned with no hope of forgiveness.

1 Cor. 11:26-29

26. For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

27. Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord.

28. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup.

29. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself.

That word for judgment is kree'-mah...

It's where we get the word "crime" from.

3. The church is to judge unrepented sin among those who claim to be Christians!

1 Cor. 5:1-5

1Cor. 5:1 - It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that does not occur even among pagans: A man has his father's wife.

2 And you are proud! Shouldn't you rather have been filled with grief and have put out of your fellowship the man who did this?

3 Even though I am not physically present, I am with you in spirit. And I have already passed judgment on the one who did this, just as if I were present.

4 When you are assembled in the name of our Lord Jesus and I am with you in spirit, and the power of our Lord Jesus is present,

5 hand this man over to Satan, so that the sinful nature may be destroyed and his spirit saved on the day of the Lord.