

YOU BE THE JUDGE

Matthew 7:1-12; Luke 6:36-38

Outline by Gene McCoy

CONTEXTUAL CONSIDERATIONS

- A. Necessary inference of verse 2 is that Jesus does expect us to make some judgments.
- B. The context of Jesus' teaching is that of love and mercy toward others.
 - a. Not being hypocritical (v. 5) or censorious
 - b. Standard is the so-called "golden rule" (v. 12)
- C. Jesus instructs us in this same passage to make some judgments (7:6, 15-16)

INSTANCES IN WHICH WE HAVE TO JUDGE

- A. Judgment made by civil authorities (Rom. 13:1-7)
- B. Private judgment on fallen brethren (Matt. 18:15; Ja. 5:19, 20)
- C. Judgment of the church on unfaithful brethren (Matt. 18:16, 17; 1 Cor. 5:9-13; 2 Thess. 3:6, 14; Titus 3:10, 11)
- D. Judgments of the church on false teachers (Matt. 7:15-20; Gal. 1:6-9; 2 Jn. 10)

FORBIDDEN JUDGMENTS

- A. Thoughts and motives (1 Cor. 4:5)
- B. Eternal destiny (Ja. 4:11, 12)

BE CAREFUL HOW YOU JUDGE

- A. Why care should be taken (Matt. 7:2, 12)
 - a. The principle of reciprocity (Matt. 5:7; 6:14-15; Gal. 6:7; Rom. 2:1-3)
 - b. The golden rule (Matt. 7:12)
- B. How this care is manifested
 - a. Showing mercy (Ja. 2:12-13; Matt. 6:14-15; 5:7; Rom. 14:10)
 - b. Loving (1 Tim. 1:5)
 - c. Not hypocritical (Matt. 7:3-5; Rom. 2:1-3)

CONCLUSION

- A. What we have said
 - a. Jesus did not prohibit judging, but censorious and hypocritical, hasty and unfair judging (See also Jn. 7:24-25)
 - b. Some judgments we are instructed to make and act upon.
 - c. Great care should be taken for the same standard will be used when we are judged.
- B. The two standards of judgment (Ja. 2:12-13)
 - a. Christians will be judged by the law of liberty, thereby triumphing over judgment.
 - b. Non-Christians will be judged by the law of justice.
 - c. Christians who have shown no mercy will be shown no mercy in the judgment.
- C. In our judgments we are to speak and act in such a way that recognizes the Lord is the final Judge. Let us, then, be very judicious in our judging lest we be shown no mercy on that great Day of Judgment.