

The Trial

Part Two - Here Comes the Judge

Judgment may be the most misunderstood issue in all of Scripture.

Matthew 7:1

“Do not judge, or you too will be judged.”

1 Corinthians 2:15

People who are guided by the Spirit can make all kinds of judgments, but they cannot be judged by others.

1 Corinthians 6:3

Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more the things of this life!

Matthew 7:2-5

“2 For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. 3 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? 4 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? 5 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.”

The lack of judgment in the body of Christ is one of the greatest faults of the church today.

John 7:24

“Stop judging by mere appearances but instead judge correctly.”

1 John 4:1

Dear friends, do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God. For there are many false prophets in the world.

Hebrews 5:14

Solid food is for those who are mature, who through training have the skill to recognize the difference between right and wrong.

We often ignore what we should judge and judge what we should ignore.

Romans 14:13

So then, let us stop judging one another. Instead, you should decide never to do anything that would make others stumble or fall into sin.

James 2:3-4

3 If you give special attention and a good seat to the rich person, but you say to the poor one, "You can stand over there, or else sit on the floor" - well, 4 doesn't this discrimination show that your judgments are guided by evil motives?

How to Judge Properly**1. Begin with the Bible.****2 Timothy 3:16**

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.

John 12:48

Those who reject me and do not accept my message have one who will judge them. The words I have spoken will be their judge on the last day!

2. Start with self.**Lamentations 3:40**

Let us examine our ways and test them, and let us return to the LORD.

2 Corinthians 13:5

Put yourselves to the test and judge yourselves, to find out whether you are living in faith.

3. Judge actions, not motives.**1 Corinthians 4:5**

So then, do not judge anything before the time. Wait until the Lord comes. He will bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the motives of hearts. Then each will receive recognition from God.

4. Judge with justice as your goal.**Galatians 6:1**

Dear brothers and sisters, if another believer is overcome by some sin, you who are godly should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself.

5. Be as ready to restore as you are to rebuke.**2 Corinthians 2:5-8**

5 I am not overstating it when I say that the man who caused all the trouble hurt all of you more than he hurt me. 6 Most of you opposed him, and that was punishment enough. 7

Now, however, it is time to forgive and comfort him. Otherwise, he may be overcome by discouragement. 8 So I urge you now to reaffirm your love for him.