

Don't Judge – Love!

Matthew 7:1-12

Main Point:

Pray for God's enabling grace, so that you will love others instead of sinfully judge them.

1. You are not to judge others.

2. Certain kinds of judgments are not sinful.

3. Instead of judging others, you are to love them.

4. To love instead of judge, you need to pray for God's enabling grace.

Cross-References and Quotations

Romans 14:4 ⁴ Who are you to judge another's servant? To his own master he stands or falls ... (NKJV)

John Legg "We are not judges of others, but fellow-sinners."

John 7:24 ²⁴ "Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment." (NKJV)

Dan Doriani "Jesus prohibits a critical spirit, but does not forbid all use of the critical faculty."

Romans 13:10 ¹⁰ Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love *is* the fulfillment of the law. (NKJV)

Mark Ross "The way of love demands moral evaluation, not turning a blind eye to the sins of others; but it also demands that the moral evaluation proceed from a heart of love, free from self-righteousness, and aimed at helping the other person, not condemning him."

John Legg "If we are conscious of our own need for forgiveness, we shall not lightly condemn others."

Sinclair Ferguson "The heart that has tasted the Lord's grace and forgiveness will always be restrained in its judgment of others. It has seen itself deserving judgment and condemnation before the Lord, and yet, instead of experiencing his burning anger, has tasted his infinite mercy."

Luke 11:13 ¹³ "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" (NKJV)

Dan Doriani "All three instructions [ask, seek, knock] invite us to plead with God for aid when we face Jesus' commands. We ask for his saving grace, to forgive our sins. We ask for the Holy Spirit to enable us to obey Jesus' commands, at least a little more, day by day."

John Broadus "One may be a truly industrious man, and yet poor in temporal things; but one cannot be a truly praying man, and yet poor in spiritual things."