



# “Judge Not, That Ye Be Not Judged”

Matthew 7:1-5

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## INTRODUCTION

- ▶ The statement “Judge not, that ye be not judged” (**Matt. 7:1**) is famous but often misunderstood
- ▶ Jesus, in **Matthew 7:1-5**, provides instructions on the right and wrong way to correct others

## MISINTERPRETATION: ALL JUDGING PROHIBITED

- ▶ “Judge not” does not mean we should completely ignore the sins of others -**v. 5**
- ▶ *Krino* (“judge”): properly, to separate; i.e. judge; come to a choice by making a judgment — either positive or negative — *HELPS Word-studies*
- ▶ Certain judging is allowed, even commanded -**Matt. 18:15-17; Luke 17:3; John 7:24; 1 Cor. 5:3**
- ▶ Matthew 7:1-5 forbids *hypercritical* and *hypocritical* judging

## HYPERCRITICAL JUDGING PROHIBITED (vv. 1-2)

- ▶ God will judge us the way we judge others, and we need His mercy -**Matt. 18:32-35**
- ▶ The proper attitude: mercy and fairness -**Luke 6:36-37; John 7:24**
- ▶ The proper motive: to save people -**Jas. 5:19-20; 4:12**
- ▶ The proper approach: gentleness -**Gal. 6:1**

## HYPOCRITICAL JUDGING CORRECTED (vv. 3-5)

- ▶ Do not correct someone of some small flaw (“speck”) if you have a greater sin (“log”) in your own life
- ▶ First, eliminate your own sin -**v. 5**
  - ◆ Only possible if you first *notice* your own sin -**v. 3b**
- ▶ Do not live by a double standard -**Matt. 23:1-4; Rom. 2:1-3**

## CONCLUSION

- ▶ You can “judge” others as long as you do it in the correct manner, with fairness and sincerity