

**THAT'S JUST
YOUR JUDGMENT!**



- ▶ **Liberties – Areas that are indifferent toward God. Matters where there is no standard on the topic. Both options can be fulfilled without sin.**
 - ▶ 1 Corinthians 8:8-9, 10:29; Romans 14:3
- ▶ **Judgment – Issues where sin resides on the spectrum of practice. Human reason and discernment are needed for application.**
 - ▶ Hebrews 5:11-14; 1 Corinthians 5:3,12

THE BIBLICAL DISTINCTION

- ▶ **Judgment requires a righteous standard**
 - ▶ **John 7:24**
- ▶ **Correct application comes from what is written**
 - ▶ **2 Thessalonians 3:6,14**
- ▶ **Hypocritical judgment/assessment condemned**
 - ▶ **Matthew 7:1-6**

THE STANDARD OF JUDGMENTS



- ▶ **Confusion and conflating of liberties and judgments can wreak havoc on doctrine**
 - ▶ **Restrictive – Making an issue of liberty a matter of judgment**
 - ▶ **Permissive – Making a matter of judgment a liberty**
- ▶ **By moving judgments to the realm of liberty the guiding standard for the issue is dissolved**
 - ▶ **1 Corinthians 1:10; 2 Timothy 3:5; 2 John 9**

THE LURE OF POSTMODERNISM

- ▶ **Drinking (1 Peter 4:3-5)**
- ▶ **Congregation A – Views social drinking as an option and does not hold to a standard of judgment. Treats passages regarding drinking as unclear and views drinking as a Romans 14 issue (a liberty).**
- ▶ **Congregation B – Teaches against social drinking and recognizes that clear teaching regarding sobriety and holiness will apply to restricting the practice of drinking. Views social drinking as a violation of God’s law and worthy of discipline.**

PROBLEM EXEMPLIFIED

- ▶ **Modesty (1 Timothy 2:9-10)**
- ▶ **Congregation A – Preacher teaches that there is “no standard of modesty” in the Bible. The Elders and parents leave modesty up to the children and individuals to define. The church thinks that modesty is a state of mind rather than what clothes one wears. This issue is viewed like a matter of liberty.**
- ▶ **Congregation B – Preacher establishes biblical examples and precepts to train members to discern God’s standard of modesty. Elders and parents lead by example and discipline those who are dressing immodestly with love and direction. The church teaches that modesty is an issue of behavior and the heart. The matter is treated as a judgment that requires a standard.**

PROBLEM EXEMPLIFIED