You Be The Judge

Ken Chapman · Matthew 7:1–5

INTRODUCTION

- A brother or sister in Christ is overtaken in sin. We have three choices.
- There are certain things that the child of God has been called upon to judge. Certain judgments that not only are we allowed to make, but that God absolutely expects us to make.

1 Judge Teachers and Their Teaching

1 John 4:1; 2 John 1:9–11; Matthew 7:15

- Do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits whether they are of God. Because many false prophets have gone out into the world.
- That basis is made upon one sole criteria. And that is how does it line up with the Word of God?
- I can't make a judgment about someone else's teaching unless I know the word of God myself. And so we must be people of the book.
- We do not receive him, we do not receive that teaching, and we in no way take any actions that might be construed as endorsing that teaching.
- Beware of false prophets who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits.

2 Consider Our Brethren and Their Spiritual Needs

Galatians 6:1; James 5:19–20

- One of the reasons God put us together in this is so that we could be watching out for one another.
- You who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.
- Some judgment, some determination had to be made that this person has been overtaken. This person is now in spiritual jeopardy.
- Christians who go to those who are spiritually sick need to have a good spiritual bedside manner.

3 Judgment Must Be Made About Ourselves

James 1:23–24

- We do not limit this judgment to others. It must be made about ourselves.
- For anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer. He's like a man observing his natural face in a mirror, for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was.
- So that we might see flaws and make corrections to those.
- It's also a mirror that shows us for what we can be. If we let God in Christ take control of our lives.

4 Never Be Guilty of Hypocritical Judgment

Matthew 7:1–5

- Here's the point of Jesus' statement, judge not in Matthew chapter 7, is that we should never be guilty of hypocritical judgment.
- Judge not that you be not judged. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged.
- First, remove the plank from your own eye, then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.
- And so Jesus is simply saying, you be honest in your judgments. Be honest, be fair, and be consistent.

5 Do Not Judge According to Appearance

John 7:24; 1 Corinthians 13:7

- Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment.
- To make rush judgments even about our brethren based upon what might be a first glance is absolutely wrong.
- But until proven otherwise, I'm going to believe the best of you.

6 Not Judgmental and Fault-Finding

Romans 14:3–4; Romans 14:10; Romans 14:15–20

- The scriptures absolutely condemn the idea of being what we might call judgmental and fault-finding.
- Let not him who eats despise him who does not eat, and let not him who does not eat judge him who eats, for God has received him.
- Who are you to judge? Another's servant.
- This is your brother. This is one for whom Christ died. This is God's servant.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Knowing that. Now issue your judgment. Whatever you do, let it be done in love.**

MY NOTES