



Bethany Bible Study & Discussion

Sermon on the Mount (Part-8)

Wednesdays
8-9 PM

JUDGE NOT

Matthew 7:1-5

9.15.21

Personal reflection: Are we hasty to judge our family, friends, other believers, church? What motivates us to judge others? Do we regret after judging in haste?

Jesus Perspective (7:1-5) Who is this passage primarily addressed to? What is Lord's warning in verse 2? What can we learn from "mote versus beam" illustration?

Broader Biblical perspective: What does the Bible say about judging? ... can we judge? If so, who/when/how can we judge? What must be the foundational principles/guidelines when judging others? What must be the desired outcome of judgement towards backslidden believers? Does the church have the authority to judge? Examples? What will happen if no one had the freedom/authority to judge? What authority is given to Jesus as the Judge?

Motive: What is our motive for judging?

- **Righteous anger** due to hatred for sin?
- **Love** for the person and their spiritual growth?
- **Pride** to show ourselves as better?
- Urge to criticize and **find faults** in others?
- **No tolerance** for mistakes?

Who do you see?



Jesus Perspective (Mathew 7:1-5)

Who is this passage primarily addressed to?

What is the Lord warning us of in verse 2?

What lessons can we learn from “mote versus beam” illustration?

Who is it primarily addressed to?

Hypocrites (5)

We cannot judge others when we are struggling with the same sin or do not practice what we preach

“Thou **hypocrite**, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye”(5)

How do we get clear vision?

For Clear Vision

“Thou hypocrite, first **cast out the beam out of thine own eye**; and then shalt thou **see clearly** to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye”(5)

Warning of verse 2

We will be measured by the same standard that we use to judge others

Similar thought:

Give and it shall be given unto you ... for with the measure you use, it will be measured to you (**Luke 6:38**)

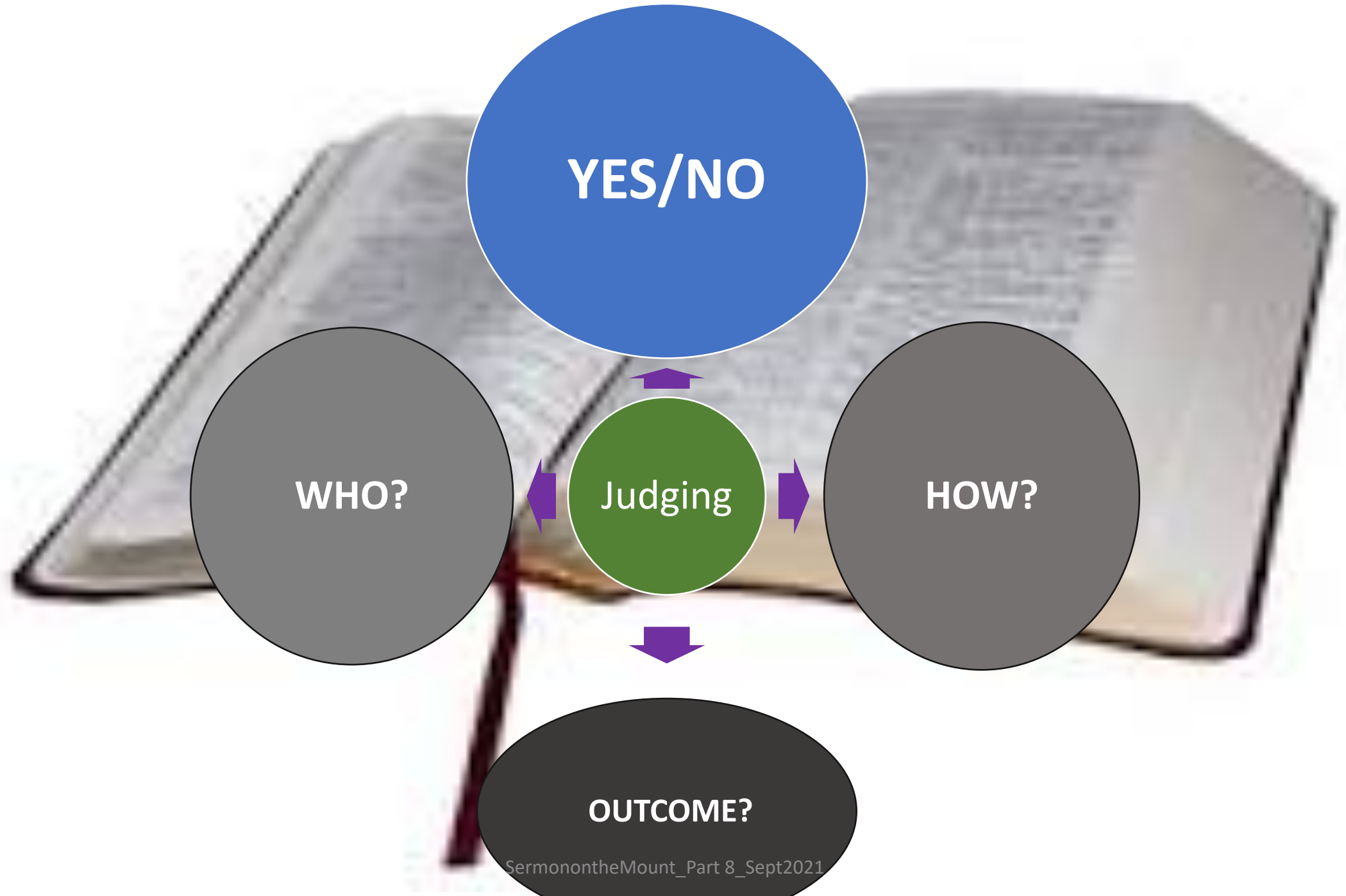
Whatever we sow, that shall we reap (**Galatians 6:7**)

Parable of unmerciful servant (**Mathew 18:21-35**)

Lessons from Mote versus beam

Lessons from Mote versus beam

- 1. We are no better** - Our sins (like Beam) are generally greater than the sins of others (mote). To think otherwise puts us in danger of being self-righteous and proud.
- 2. Sins cloud our vision** - Sins block our vision and make us foolish judges.
- 3. Introspect rather than Inspect** - Time spent in self-examination, confession, and changing oneself is better than looking for faults in others



YES/NO

WHO?

Judging

HOW?

OUTCOME?

YES/NO ... Can we judge?

YES (subject to God's will and authority)

When we consider the entire Bible, we can interpret that:

- we can Judge others
 - We can wisely discern between right/wrong
 - We can have an opinion
 - We can hold others accountable
 - We can exercise discipline in the church
-
- **Bible teaches us HOW, WHEN, and WHO we can judge wisely & in love.**
 - Examples ...?

Examples of freedom/authority to judge

Confronting the leaders

Nathan confronting King David

(Then Nathan said to David, “You are the man!, **II Samuel 12:7**, NIV)

Examples of freedom/authority to judge

Sharing the Word ... discern between dogs and pigs

⁶ “Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces. (**Mathew 7:6**, NIV)

Dogs & pigs may refer to those who reject/oppose the gospel

... we can walk away from those who reject the gospel (**Acts 18:6, 13:51; Mathew 10:14**)

Examples of freedom/authority to judge

Judging between true and false preachers

¹⁵ “Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves ²⁰ Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them. (**Mathew 7: 15-20**, NIV)

Examples of freedom/authority to judge

Resolving conflicts among believers ... Church vs. Court

If any of you has a dispute with another, do you dare to take it before the ungodly for judgment instead of before the Lord's people? ² Or do you not know that the Lord's people will judge the world? And if you are to judge the world, are you not competent to judge trivial cases? ⁵ I say this to shame you. Is it possible that there is nobody among you wise enough to judge a dispute between believers?

(I Corinthians 6:1-8, NIV)

Examples of freedom/authority to judge

Responding to sin within church/Disciplining sinners within church

“ I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators: ¹⁰ Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world. ¹¹ But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolator, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat. ¹² For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within? ¹³ But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person. (I Corinthians 5:9-13, NIV)

Who is qualified to Judge?

God is the supreme Judge

(He shall judge the world in righteousness, And He shall administer judgment for the peoples in uprightness, **Psalms 9:8**)

Our authority to judge is given by God and must be exercised according to His will (**John 5:30**) and the revealed wisdom of the scriptures

“He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her”
(John 8:7)

Who can we judge?

Our freedom to confront and judge is restricted to our circle of influence and authority defined by God

- Who is in that circle?

Judging ... basic principles/guidelines

1. Rooted in **love** for others and hatred for sin, not self-glory
2. Seek **Restoration**, not condemnation or character assassination
(Galatians 6:1, James 4:11-12, Titus 3:2)
3. Based on **facts/truth**, not appearance and opinions (James 2:1-4,
John 7:24, Proverbs 18:13, Isaiah 11:3-4)
4. Use honest/**fair** scales (Proverbs 11:1, 16:11)
5. Before judging, **self-examine** to ensure that we are not guilty of the
same sin (John 8:7)
6. Pray and seek **God's counsel** before judging
 “Rebuke the wise and they will love you” (Proverbs 9:8)

Jesus ... the Judge

All authority given to Lord Jesus Christ

John 5:22 “For the father judgeth no man,
but hath committed all judgment unto the Son”

Two important Judgements to come ... Are you ready?

Jesus, the Judge (Judgement of Believers)

JUDGEMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God (**I Corinthians 4:5**)

For we must all appear before the **judgment seat of Christ**; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad (**II Corinthians 5:10**)

Quality of a believer's work tested by fire (**I Corinthians 3:10-15**)

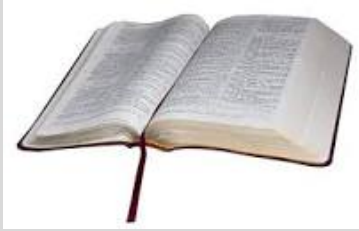
Note: Believer's salvation is eternally secure and will not be judged

Jesus, the Judge (Judgement of Unbelievers)

GREAT WHITE THRONE Judgment

And I saw a **great white throne**, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them... and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, **according to their works**.¹⁴ And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. ¹⁵ And whosoever was not found written in the **book of life** was cast into the **lake of fire** ([Revelation 20:11-15](#))

* **Destination ... LAKE of fire**



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