

JUDGE NOT!

How many of us that open-air hear those two famous words on a street corner, campus or at an event? I've even been told that 'Judge Not' was one of the 10 Commandments or it's found 'everywhere in the Bible' and it is my estimation that 99.9% of those that quote those two words do not know where in the Bible it is recorded. I say, "I am here to judge right from wrong, I am here to judge individuals and you people as a group. Do not be astonished at this doctrine"

Let us read one of the most misquoted verses in the Bible.

Matthew 7:1-5

"Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam /s in thine own eye? 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"

Yes the verse does say 'Judge not' however there is a comma not a period, therefore more information is coming. If context means anything, this is a PRO-Judging verse. Do not be a hypocrite, remove your sin SO YOU CAN SEE CLEARLY and remove the mote from another.

The next verse reads:

"Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you"

QUESTION?

Now how do you know a 'dog' or 'swine' UNLESS YOU JUDGE THEM?

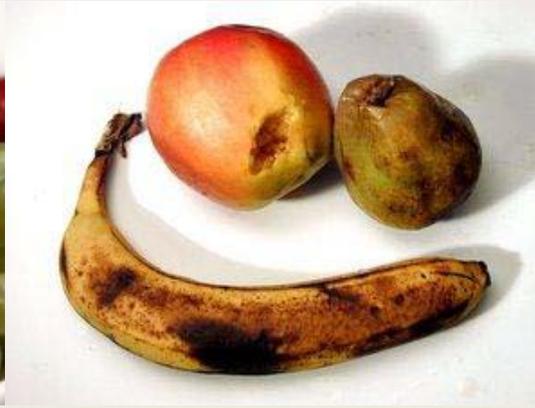
Further in the same chapter we read:

"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?"

Again, the million dollar question is how do we know a 'false prophet' UNLESS WE JUDGE THEM.

How do we judge them you asked, well read on.....

"Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them"



So we judge by fruit, not how we feel or if I'm offended. As an apple that is bruised and with worms is deemed bad, we must judge teachers. Even John understood this when he wrote:

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

-1Jn 4:1

.....did you get that?

Try the spirit, test the spirit or **JUDGE** the spirit whether they are of God. Judging is sound and biblical.

Note the second to the last verse in Matthew 7:

"And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine"

You want a blunt verse on judging? Jesus said:

"Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment"

-John 7:24

Judge righteously, using the Bible as my guide I can judge righteous judgment. Judging by what is politically correct is not righteous. Judging by appearance or emotion is not righteous. Judging by what others might think or what might be offensive or an opinion is not righteous.

The Jesus of the Bible appreciates and endorses judging:

"And he said unto him, Thou hast rightly judged"

-Luke 7:43

"Yea, and why even of yourselves judge ye not what is right?"

-Luke 12:57

"And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican"

-Matthew 18:17



The apostle Paul understands this doctrine, for he writes:
"But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man"
-1Co.2:15

He admonished the Church to:
"Judge in yourselves: is it comely that a woman pray unto God uncovered?"
-1Co.11:13

Our job will continue in judging after we die:
"Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life?"
-1Co.6:2-3

We will judge the world and we will judge angels.

We must judge ourselves:
"For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?"
-1Co.5:12

John the Baptist:

"O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?"

"And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire"
" For John had said unto Herod, It is not lawful for thee to have thy brother's wife"

JOHN WAS JUDGING.

Jesus the Christ:

"If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children"
"It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs"
"Woe unto you"
"hypocrites!"
"Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine"
"ye blind guides"
"Ye fools and blind"
"full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness"
"Offspring of vipers"
"Child of hell"
"because you know not the scriptures, neither the power of God?"
"ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity"
"Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers"
"Murderers"
"Go ye, and tell that fox"
"Ye are of your father the devil"

Jesus went further and judged entire generations

'wicked' 'vipers' 'faithless' 'unbelieving' 'adulterous' 'sinful' and 'perverse'

JESUS WAS JUDGING

The Book of Acts:

"Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears"
"O full of all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness"
"You sit there to judge me according to the law, yet you yourself violate the law by commanding that I be struck!"
"ye do always resist the Holy Ghost"
"God will strike you, you whitewashed wall!"
"Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God"
"Repent therefore of this thy wickedness"
"For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity"

JUDGING IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

The Epistles endorse judging:

"following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness"
"O foolish"
"Are ye so foolish?"

**"Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers"
"Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away"
"try the spirits"
"And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him"
"withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly"
"For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies"
"receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed"
"A man that is an heretic after the first and second admonition reject"
"mark them which cause divisions"
"preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed"
"I wrote to you in an letter not to company with fornicators"
"And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them"
"Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme"
"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 idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat"
"And their word will eat as does a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus"**

The Church should judge

***"Prove all things; hold fast that which is good"
1Th.5:21***

**Let us look at the issue of judging without using the Bible to see the necessity to judge, for truly how can anyone live without judging?
How do we know right from wrong without judging?
Can we agree that a child molester is wrong without judging?
How can anyone vote without judging?
How can a judge hear a case without judging?
How can a jury come to a verdict without judging?
How can we buy a house or a car without judging?
How can you know the person to marry without judging?
The analogies can go on and on.....**

And verily, if that same person that warns you not to judge is honest with themselves, they have already judged you. The need to judge is as normal as breathing, however the question is what do you use to gage your judging. RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT is having the Bible as your meter to determine what is right and what is sinful.

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness”



The reason why people will quote those two words in concert is because they do not want anyone to examine their lives. They have this ‘Don’t Judge my fornication and I will not Judge your porno’ attitude. Or ‘Don’t judge my cussing and I will not judge your lying or adultery.’ See how we get along if we don’t judge?

Ecclesiastes 3 reads:

“To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace”

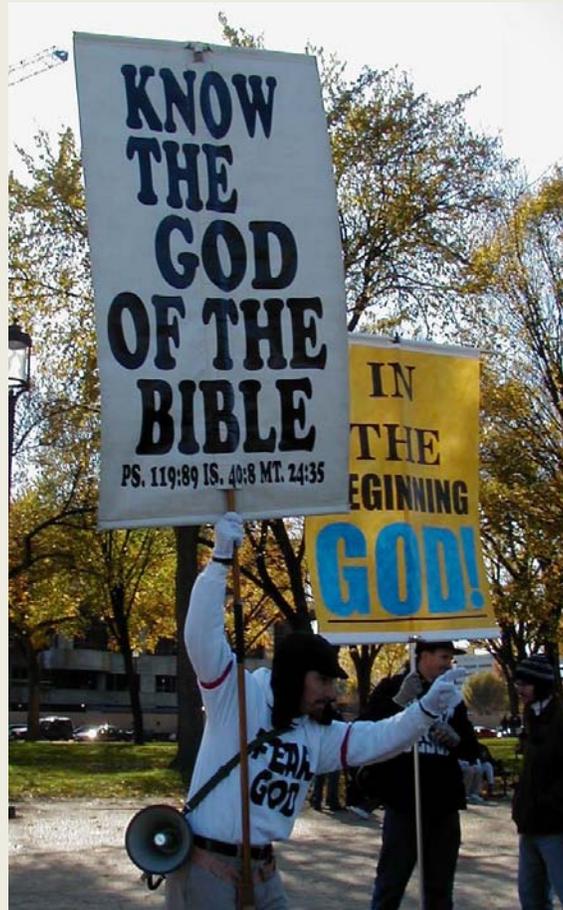
How do we know that ‘time’ or that ‘season’ unless we JUDGE the situation and a spiritual man WILL KNOW when.

Also we read in Proverbs 26:4-5:

**"Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him.
Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit"**

And how do we know when to expound on a verse while preaching or when not to answer that question IF WE DO NOT JUDGE the matter and the very person. As a spiritual man we are expected to judge and know when to respond and when not to reply to the same question.

**The God of the Bible is LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO
JUDGE:**



"Run ye to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if ye can find a man, if there be any that executeth judgment, that seeketh the truth; and I will pardon it"

-Jer.5:1

Are you that person willing to execute judgment and call evil wicked?

