

The Message Notes

Message: *To Judge or Not to Judge? That Is the Question!*

Teacher: Sis. Kim Ruiz (7-18-2021)



Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 5:1-3, 9-12 (NKJV)

Objective: We're going to examine the scriptures when it comes to judging our brothers/sisters in Christ and judging the world. Are we allowed to judge?

KJV Definition of Judge: To compare facts or ideas, and perceive their agreement or disagreement, and thus to distinguish truth from falsehood.

Question 1: Can We Judge Our Brothers/Sisters in Christ?

It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and such sexual immorality as is not even named among the Gentiles—that a man has his father's wife! And you are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he who has done this deed might be taken away from among you. For I indeed, as absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged (as though I were present) him who has so done this deed.

Paul says in verse 1, That a man has his father's wife! Paul is talking about a brother who is practicing sin, not someone who has sinned and repented. 1 Cor. 5:1-3.

1 Corinthians 5:12. For what do I have to do with judging those ALSO who are outside? Do we not judge those who are inside? Paul asks this question as not a matter of IF we can judge, but rather you're too busy judging those who are outside while ignoring the body of Christ?

Matthew 7:1-2. Judge not lest you be judged. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged: and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. This scripture coincides with Romans 2:1-4.

Matthew 7:3-5. The speck and plank is a call for followers to examine themselves who has a plank size issue in regards of the magnification of the problem. That is, to ignore their sins they practice, they are shortsighted and always ready to point out their brothers' sins. 2 Corinthians 13:5, Romans 2:21-23

Romans 2:24 For "the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you," as it is written. If we don't examine ourselves, we are in

danger of being a bad representation of a follower of Christ to the world -- that's where the word hypocrite comes in.

Exodus 20:7. You shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; For the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain....

If you say you are a follower of Christ and are living contrary to His Word, you have just used His name in vain and have committed identity theft.

Question 2: Can We Judge the World?

1 Corinthians 5:13 But those who are outside God judges. Ecclesiastes 12:14

So, when then the world says you can't judge me - they are correct! But world, you can't claim a title you're not living.

To become a follower of Christ, you must follow to become one.

What's the protocol to become a follower of Christ? Romans 10:9-13

2 Corinthians 5:20 (NLT). So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making His appeal through us.

We speak for Christ when we plead. **"Come back to God!"** When we say I follow Christ, we're saying I'm a representative who not only speaks His Word, but lives by example, and pleads for the unbeliever to ***"Come back to be restored in right relationship with God"***.

Warning World: You will be judged by the body of Christ if you claim to be connected to the body of Christ, just like Paul did with the Corinthians in reference to a brother.

World Remedy: Simply, stop saying you're a follower of Christ because we as the body of Christ can assess/judge the health of the body of the follower who claims they're connected, but first we must examine ourselves and to make sure we ourselves are not practicing sin. It is God who judges the world.

Protocol in judging a brother: Matthew 18:15-17; 1 Peter 4:1-5

Take Away: The body of Christ can assess/judge the body, but not the world, to see if the part we claim to be is true or false. Matthew 7:16 NKJV - ***You will know them by their fruits.***