

To Judge Or Not To Judge?

To judge or not to judge, now that is the question. For those out in the world, it seems very simple to them. The world views this question and states quickly, *"Judge not, that you be not judged"* (Matt. 7:1). And this is a very true statement. Jesus tells us that by the judgments we pass on others, we will judge ourselves (Matt. 7:2). Some choose to take this verse to an other level, in which it was not intended to go. They view judging as pointing out errors or bringing others faults to their attention. This is not the judgments spoken of by Jesus in these verses. We are all told in James 5:19-20, *"Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins."* So in these verses, not only are we supposed to watch out for our brethren, but are praised for saving a brother from a multitude of sins. So what kind of judging is Jesus talking about? The judgments referred to in Matthew the seventh chapter is our own judgments and by our own standards and not God's laws. We must all be careful that we do not judge brothers or sisters by standards not specified in God's Holy Word. We must all strive to be like Jesus and follow His teachings in John 5:30: *"As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent me."* We must all keep in mind Matthew 7:3-5, and remove the plank in our own eyes before trying to remove a speck from a brother's eye.

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