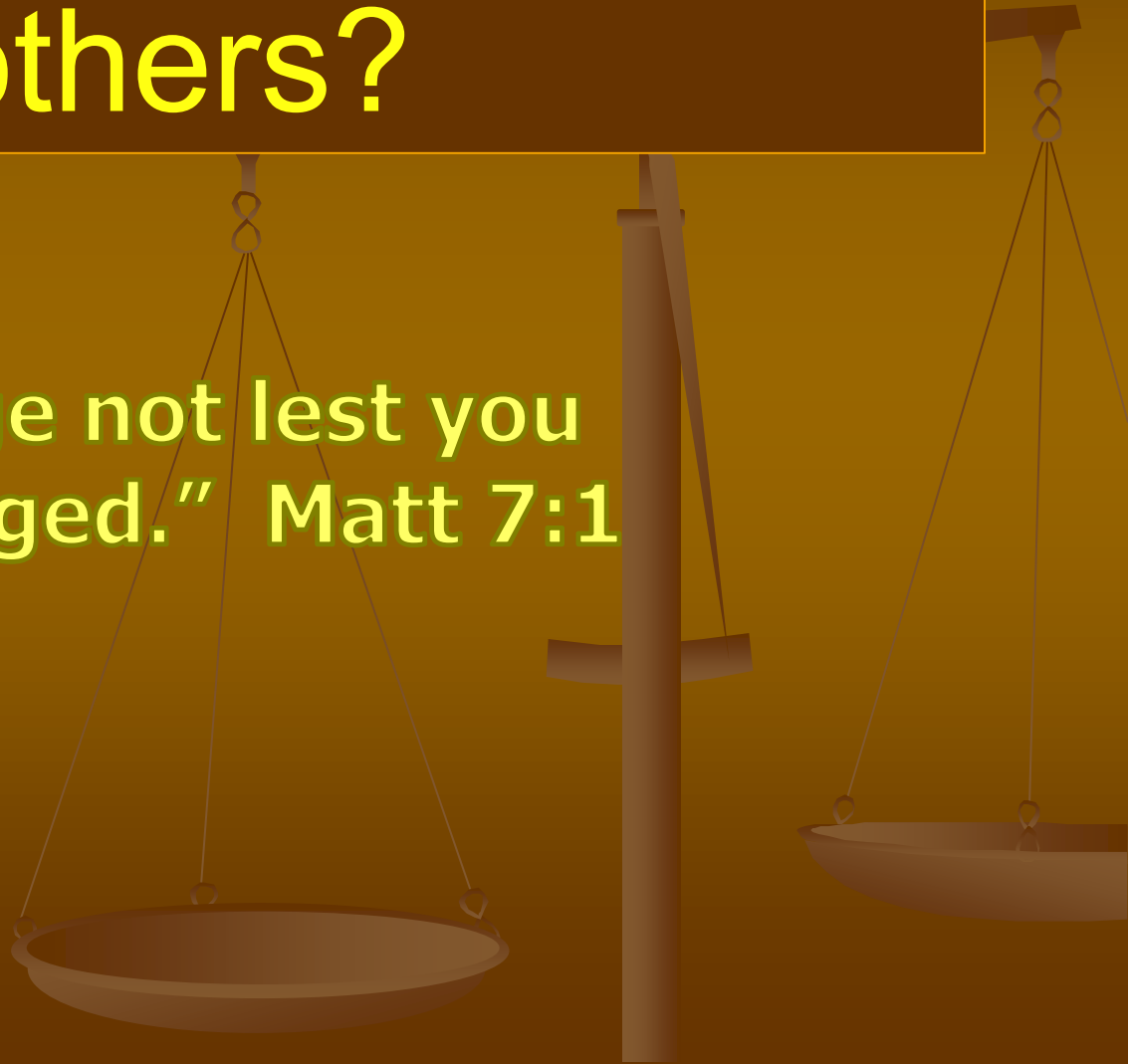


Is it wrong to Judge others?

“Judge not lest you
be judged.” Matt 7:1



Is Religious Controversy Wrong?

- Not to be “argumentative” (2 Tim 2:24) or “divisive” (Titus 3:10).
- On the other hand . . .
 - Jude 3 “Contend earnestly for the faith.”
 - Phil 1:7 – Paul said he was set to “defend and confirm the gospel.”

Is it wrong to Judge others?

Is Religious Controversy Wrong?

■ THESIS:

- The Example of Christ & the Apostles.
- The Right attitude!
- What is Matt 7:1-6 Teaching?
- Truth and consequences

Is it wrong to Judge
others?

What about Christ and the Apostles?

- Christ was in a **series of controversies.**
 - Matt 22:5-46-- Pharisees
 - Lk 21 – “The day of controversy.”
- **The book of Acts . . .**
 - Acts 7 (Stephen)
 - Acts 17 (Paul)

Is it wrong to Judge
others?

Must Have The Right Attitude!



- “Speak the truth **in love**” (Eph 4:15).
- “The Lord's bondservant must not be **quarrelsome**, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, with **gentleness correcting those who are in opposition**” (2 Tim 2:24-25).

Is it wrong to Judge
others?

The Right Attitude

- Col 4:6 *"Let your speech **always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt**, so that you will know how you should respond to each person."*



Is it wrong to Judge others?

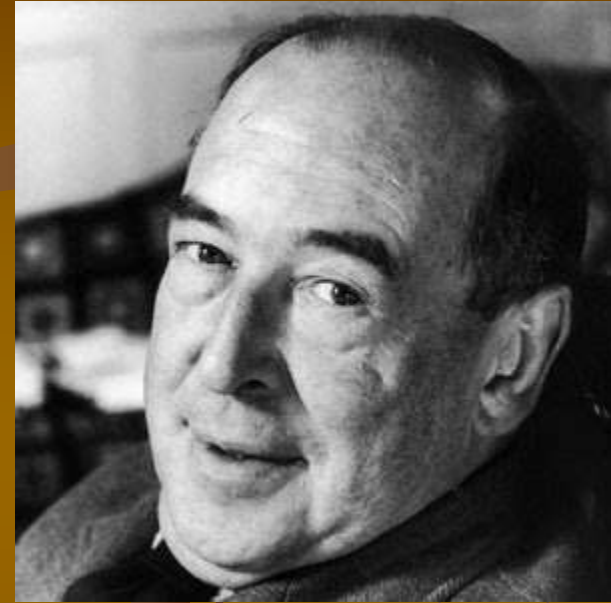


- How does this fit?
 - II Cor 13:5 “Prove (test) yourselves whether you are in the faith.”
 - I Thess 5:21 “Prove (test) all things, hold fast to that which is good.”

Is it wrong to Judge
others?

Must Have Balance

“The Bible is like a cage full of strong, ferocious animals. One cannot be allowed to swallow up the other. They must be kept in *proper relationship.*”



C.S. Lewis

Is it wrong to Judge others?

Examine the “Judge Not” Text

- Matt 7:1-6 “Judge not, lest you be judged. 2 “For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you.”
- 5 “You **hypocrite**, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.”

Is it wrong to Judge
others?

What is Jesus Warning Against?

- Hypercritical, self-righteous judging.
- **Condemns** one kind and **commands** another!
- Matt 7:6 "Do not give what is holy to dogs, and do not throw your pearls before swine."
- Matt 7:15-16 "Beware of the false prophets!"



Is it wrong to Judge others?

On what basis are we to judge?

- "You will know them by their fruits" (Matt 7:16).



Is it wrong to Judge
others?

Good and Bad Judging

Jesus: “Judge not according to *appearances* but **judge righteous judgment**” (Jn 7:24).

Do not judge me by
my skin color, my hair
color, my body size
and my outer beauty.
If you do, you will miss
entirely who I am.

Is it wrong to Judge
others?

Christians are to Make Judgments

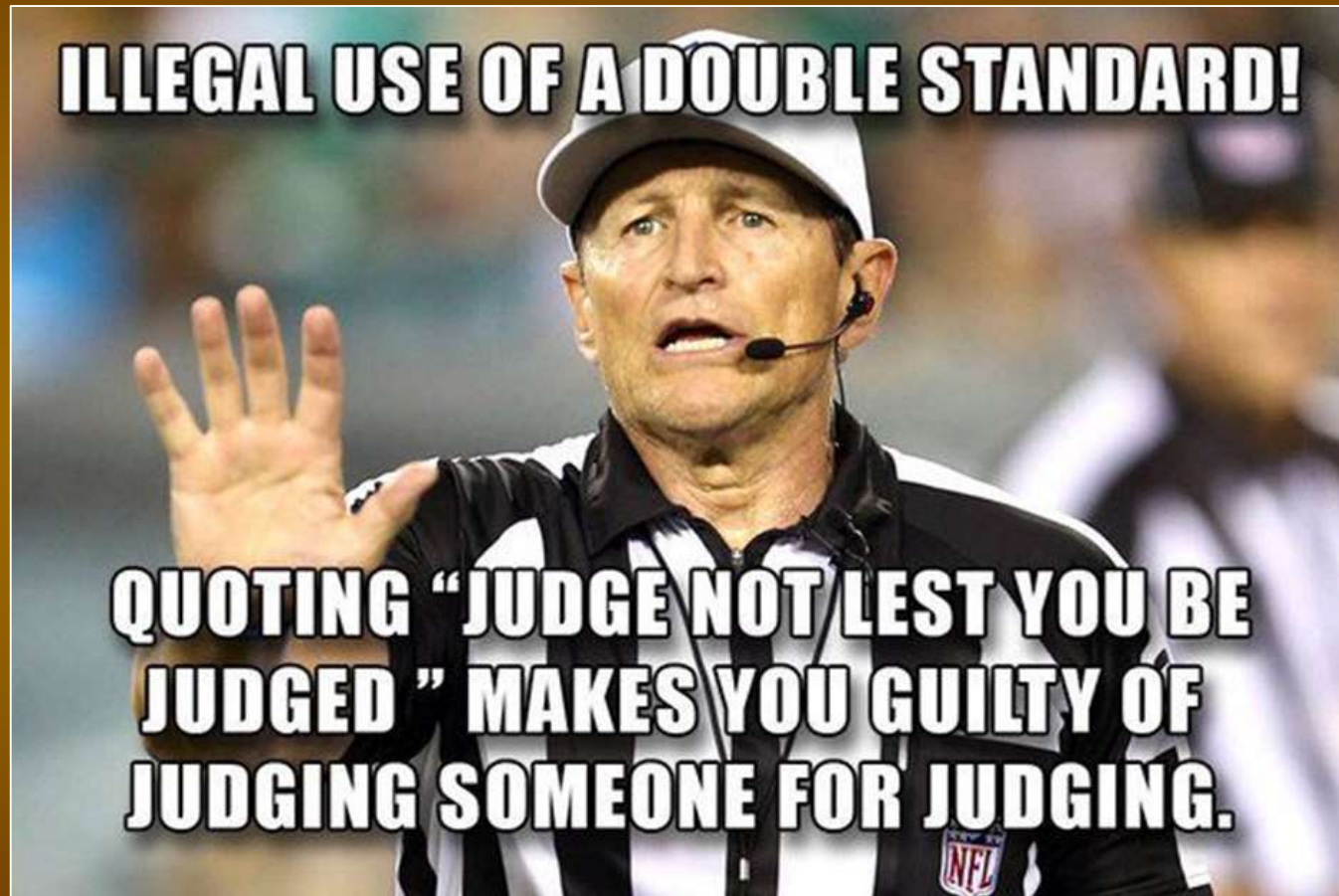
Real Christians
don't judge

Really?

Is it wrong to Judge
others?



Oh Consistency, thou art a Jewel



Is it wrong to Judge
others?

Good and Bad Judging

- **“Righteous judgment” is commanded!**
 - Jesus: "And why do you not even on your own initiative judge what is right (Lk 12:57)?"



Is it wrong to Judge others?

Christians Are to Make Judgments

- “But a *natural man* does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, because they are *spiritually* appraised. But he who is spiritual appraises all things (1 Cor 2:14-16).

Is it wrong to Judge
others?

Christians are to Make Judgments

- Phil 1:9-10 And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and in all discernment, 10 so that you may approve the things that are excellent.

Is it wrong to Judge
others?

Common Fallacy

Don't point out other people's **flaws** because you're not perfect! You have to look in the mirror before you can look out the window.



Is it wrong to Judge others?

Saints Will Judge The World!

- 1 Cor 6:2-6 2 Or do you not know that the **saints will judge the world**? If the world is judged by you, are you not competent to judge the smallest matters?
- 3 Do you not know that we will **judge angels**?

Is it wrong to Judge others?

Truth or Consequences . .

- *If* one can't judge others, then . .
 - We must quit preaching against **sin**!
 - The church is **condemned for doing the very thing Christ praised it for doing** (Rev 2:2-3).
 - The church could **never practice church discipline** (I Cor 5).

Is it wrong to Judge
others?

Summary:

- Condemns *fault finding, hypercritical treatments* of others.
- Taught us to be "*Fruit inspectors*" – based upon evidence!
- Use His Word (Jn 12:48).
- Bear the infirmities of the weak and not to make "*my conscience your guide*" (Rm 14-15)!

Is it wrong to Judge
others?

Christ = *Ultimate Judge*

- “The Lord, *the righteous Judge*” (2 Tim 4:8).
- “This is the One who has been appointed by God as Judge of the living and the dead (Acts 10:42-43).”
- Acts 17: 31 “He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed.”



Is it wrong to Judge
others?