

He That Judgeth Me Is The Lord

I. Introduction: The title of this outline would make me curious at the least because of false doctrines with similar language. Let me set your mind at ease, this lesson is by no means intended to suggest that we are not to “judge” in the sense of discerning; testing.

- A. The faithful are expected to use righteous judgment (**John 7:14-24**).
 - 1. As we mature in Christ, we have to be capable of discerning right from wrong (**Hebrews 5:12-6:2**).
 - 2. This means we have to test things/people and do something with the results (**Matthew 7:15-20**, **I Thessalonians 5:21**, and **I John 4:1**).
 - 3. Furthermore, there are even judicial responsibilities that can fall upon the shoulders of the faithful (**Matthew 18:15-35** and **I Corinthians 6:1-8**).
- B. When we judge, souls are at stake (**I Timothy 1:18-20**).
 - 1. Think about those who have abused such power (**III John 1:9-11**).
 - 2. In addition, how critical we are can cost us ultimately (**Luke 6:37-38**).
**Other Scriptures in this outline prove this out as well.*
 - 3. So, consider **Matthew 5:7** when you judge.

II. Body: **I Corinthians 4:1-6**

- A. Some among the saints in Corinth were very critical of Paul and erred in how they measured (**II Corinthians 10:7-18**).
 - 1. Their testing of him was not just (**II Corinthians 13:1-3**) for his speech was not intended to be proof of his apostleship/authority (**I Corinthians 2:1-5**, **II Corinthians 11:5-6**, and **II Corinthians 12:12**).
 - 2. They did not reciprocate the love he showed to them (**II Corinthians 12:14-15**).
 - 3. We cannot judge our brethren without love being part of the equation. Love is the balancing factor (**Proverbs 10:12**, **I Corinthians 13:4-7**, and **I Peter 4:8**). *Regarding covering sin, see: **Psalms 32:1** and **James 5:19-20**
- B. The church in Corinth judged after the flesh (**I Corinthians 1:10-13**) and thus their ability to judge righteously was off (**II Corinthians 11:3-4**).
 - 1. Think about what was stated under the Law of Moses (**Leviticus 19:15**, **Deuteronomy 1:17**, **Proverbs 18:5**, and **Proverbs 24:23**).
 - 2. Think about God’s judgment (**Romans 2:11** and **I Peter 1:17**; cf. **Ephesians 4:32-5:1**)?
 - 3. As saints, we cannot judge with respect of persons (**James 2:1-13**).
- C. There are forms of judgment that you and I are not to render (**James 4:11-12**).
 - 1. The word translated judgment is broad (Strong’s # 2919). The idea here is that we cannot condemn and destroy someone. That is the Lord’s place. The Scriptural way to apply this is regarding things, such as liberties, that are not governed by the word of God (**Romans 14:3-12**).

2. In events wherein the Scriptures do judge, that is not you and I condemning anyone (**John 12:48** and **Romans 2:16** [Paul's Gospel = Christ's words - **Galatians 1:1; 1:11-12**]). We may apply it, but the judgment is of the Lord.
3. For example, judgment regarding fornication that has not been repented of is Scripturally stated (**I Corinthians 6:18**, **Galatians 5:19-21**, **I Thessalonians 4:1-3**, and **Jude 1:7**). Therefore, Paul was able to judge the fornicator in Corinth without even being there (**I Corinthians 5:1-5**).
4. There is also judgment that is hypocritical and that is wrong (**Matthew 7:1-5** and **John 8:1-11**).

III. Conclusion: The Lord will judge us all (**II Corinthians 5:10** and **II Timothy 4:1**).