

# Judge **NOT**

How the Pharisees Judged

Matthew 7:1-2

- 1 Samuel 8



- 1 Samuel 8:4-6 (ESV) 4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah 5 and said to him, "Behold, you are old and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations." 6 But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us."



- Right and responsibility to judge
  - determine right and wrong between people and circumstances



- 2 Samuel 12:1 (ESV) And Jehovah sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, “There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor.





- text

Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As Jehovah lives, the man who has done this deserves to die, and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity."

2 Samuel 12:5-6



- 2 Samuel 12:5-6 (ESV) 5 Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die, 6 and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity."

Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As Jehovah lives, the man who has done this deserves to die, and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity."

2 Samuel 12:5-6



- David judged the rich man very harshly, seeing clearly the arrogance, the disdain, the greediness, and the lack of pity, empathy, concern for the poor man and the lamb.
- All the while, David could not see himself so clearly.
  - It was quite easy to judge the rich man.
  - But he failed to judge himself.



Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As Jehovah lives, the man who has done this deserves to die, and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity."

2 Samuel 12:5-6



- Even when one has the responsibility of judging, it is a difficult and fraught with danger.



Judge not, that you be not judged.  
Matthew 7:1

- Matthew 7:1-6 (ESV) 1 “Judge not, that you be not judged. 2 For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. 3 Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? 4 Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when there is the log in your own eye? 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. 6 “Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.

Judge not, that you be not judged.  
Matthew 7:1

- One of most misquoted and abused passages in the Bible.
  - When criticized, it is whipped out as a irrefutable retort.
- Extreme end of spectrums

Judge not, that you be not judged.  
Matthew 7:1

- we have no right to judge the actions of another person in any respect.
  - More than just "live and let life".
  - Not just tolerate
  - Cannot say anything about it
  - Must essentially approve

Judge not, that you be not judged.  
Matthew 7:1

- I must judge.
  - Some will decide that in fact we must condemn others regardless of the situation.
  - We hide behind the "truth" (as we've determined it must be), thinking that my truth is God's truth.
  - Therefore it's not me judging, it's God judging.
  - utterly ignore the teaching in this passage



Judge not, that you be not judged.  
Matthew 7:1

- Either way of understanding this utterly robs this teaching of Jesus from any real meaning.

Judge not, that you be not judged.

Matthew 7:1

We will all be judged one day.

And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment,

Hebrews 9:27

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ

2 Corinthians 5:10

- But we will be judged...
  - Hebrews 9:27 And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment,
  - 2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.
- Our Father is just!

Judge not, that you be not judged.

Matthew 7:1

“do not give dogs what is holy...  
do not throw pearls before pigs”

Matthew 7:6

- Impossible for Jesus to mean that there is to be absolutely no judging
  - 6 “Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.

Judge not, that you be not judged.

Matthew 7:1

“do not give dogs what is holy...  
do not throw pearls before pigs”

Matthew 7:6

“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in  
sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous  
wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits.”

Matthew 7:15-16

- Matthew 7:15-16 “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. 16 You will recognize them by their fruits.



“Do not judge by appearances,  
but judge with right judgment.”  
John 7:24

Judge not, that you be not judged.  
Matthew 7:1

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Matthew 7:15-16

- John 7:24: Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment.”
  - Here is the key given by the great teacher himself
  - JUDGE BY APPEARANCES VS. RIGHT JUDGMENT

“Do not **judge by appearances**,  
but judge with **right judgment**.”

John 7:24

Judge not, that you be not judged.

Matthew 7:1

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Matthew 7:15-16

- John 7:11-12: The Jews were looking for him at the feast, and saying, “Where is he?” 12 And there was much muttering about him among the people.
  - While some said, “**He is a good man,**”
  - others said, “No, **he is leading the people astray.**”

“Do not **judge by appearances**,  
but judge with **right judgment**.”

John 7:24

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Matthew 7:1

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Matthew 7:15-16

- John 7:20: The crowd answered, “**You have a demon!** Who is seeking to kill you?”
  - John 7:1: After this Jesus went about in Galilee. He would not go about in Judea, because the Jews were seeking to kill him.
- John 7:23: If on the Sabbath a man receives circumcision, so that the law of Moses may not be broken, **are you angry with me** because on the Sabbath I made a man's whole body well?

“Do not **judge by appearances**,  
but judge with **right judgment**.”

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Matthew 7:15-16

- Appearances...
  - miracles and teaching therefore good man.
  - breaks tradition, teaching is different, accuses us: leading people astray
- Right...
  - miracles... from God or demon or man?
  - teaching... following God's words or traditions of teachers?



“Do not **judge by appearances**,  
but judge with **right judgment**.”

John 7:24

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Matthew 7:15-16

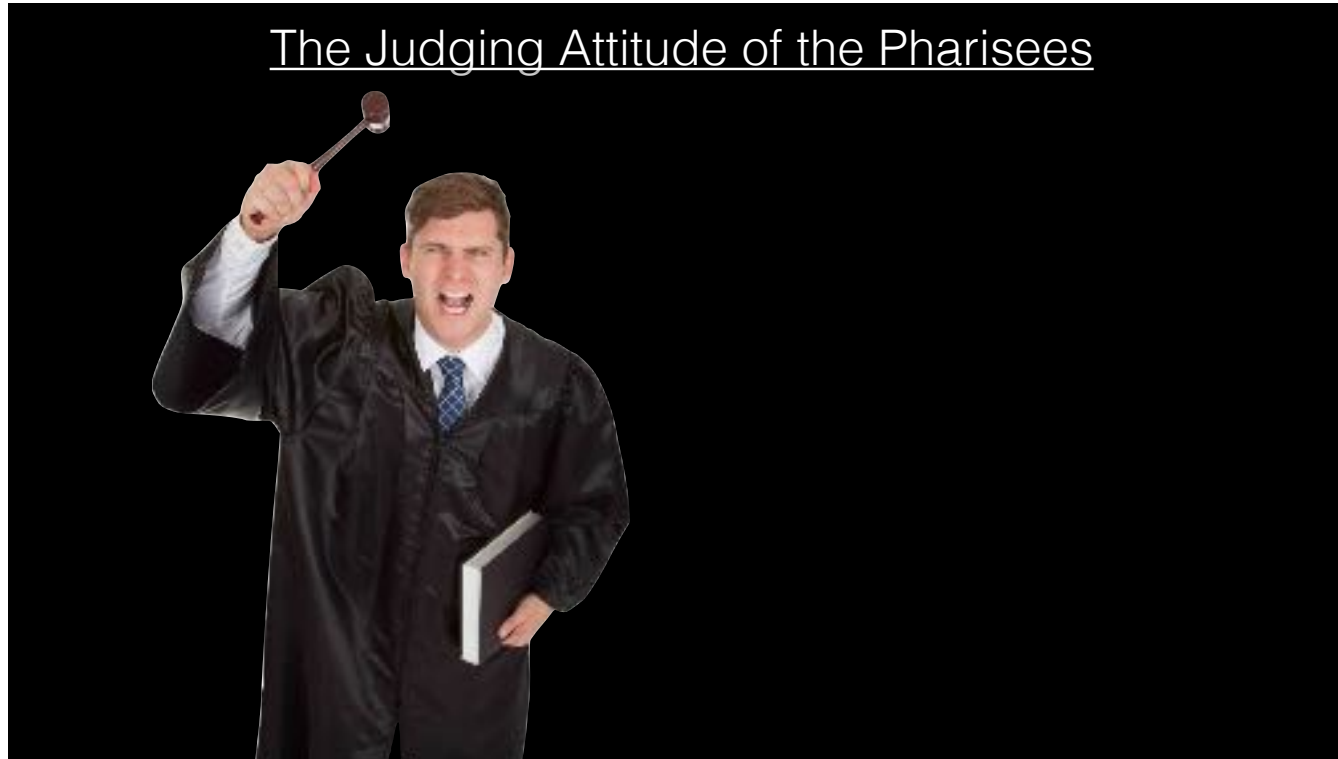
- Clearly... we must decide!
  - Do I follow Jesus?
  - Do I keep following what I know?

Judge not, that you be not judged.  
Matthew 7:1

What is **Jesus** teaching me about  
practicing righteousness?

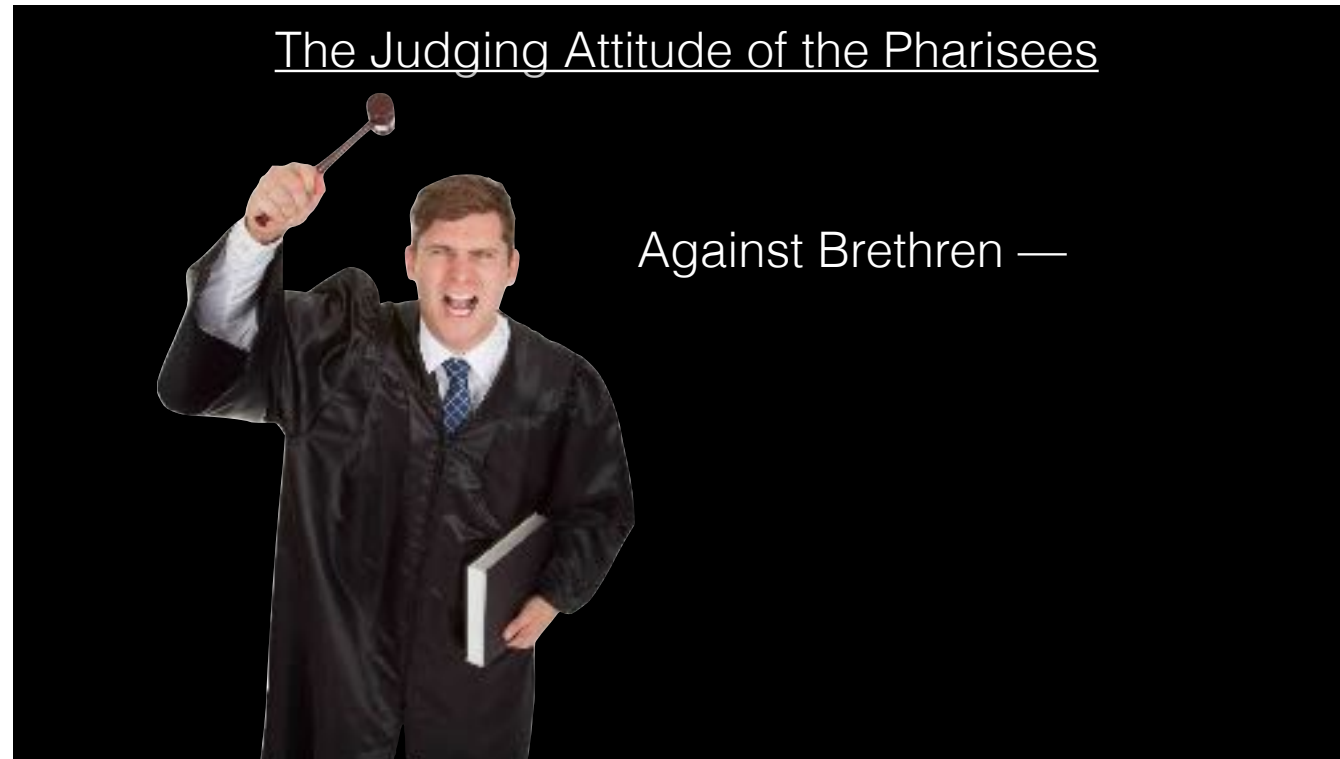
- It's often easy when practicing righteousness to look down on others who are not practicing righteousness as I understand it should (MUST) be done.
- It reveals a lack of self examination and self discipline.
- It puts the emphasis in righteousness on just the action performed, no consideration of heart and attitude (especially since I cannot judge another's heart!)

## The Judging Attitude of the Pharisees



- The Judging Attitude of the Pharisees

## The Judging Attitude of the Pharisees



Against Brethren —

- Against Brethren
  - Luke 18:9-12 (ESV) 9 He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and **treated others with contempt**

## The Judging Attitude of the Pharisees



Against Brethren —

Treated with contempt

- Luke 18:9-12 (ESV) 9 He also told this parable to some who
  - trusted in themselves that they were righteous,
  - and **treated others with contempt**

## The Judging Attitude of the Pharisees



Against Brethren —

Treated with contempt

- 11 The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that
  - I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.
    - I’m better!
- 12 I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’

## The Judging Attitude of the Pharisees



Against Brethren —

Treated with contempt

- Luke 7:36-50 (ESV) 36 One of the Pharisees asked him to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and reclined at table. 37 And behold, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, when she learned that he was reclining at table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of ointment, 38 and standing behind him at his feet, weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head and kissed his feet and anointed them with the ointment. 39 Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner." 40 And Jesus answering said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he answered, "Say it, Teacher."
- 41 "A certain moneylender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 When they could not pay, he cancelled the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?" 43 Simon answered, "The one, I suppose, for whom he cancelled the larger debt." And he said to him, "You have judged rightly." 44 Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. 45 You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet. 46 You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. 47 Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little." 48 And he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." 49 Then those who were at table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this, who even forgives sins?" 50 And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

## The Judging Attitude of the Pharisees



Against Brethren —

Treated with contempt

- 11 'God, I thank you that
  - I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.

How is being a tax collector sinful?

Is it comparable to extortioners, unjust and adulterers?

Irony: judging tax collector is unjust!



## The Judging Attitude of the Pharisees



Against Brethren —

Treated with contempt

- John 8:3-11: The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery,
  - “Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery.
    - 5 Now in the Law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?”
  - “Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.”

## The Judging Attitude of the Pharisees

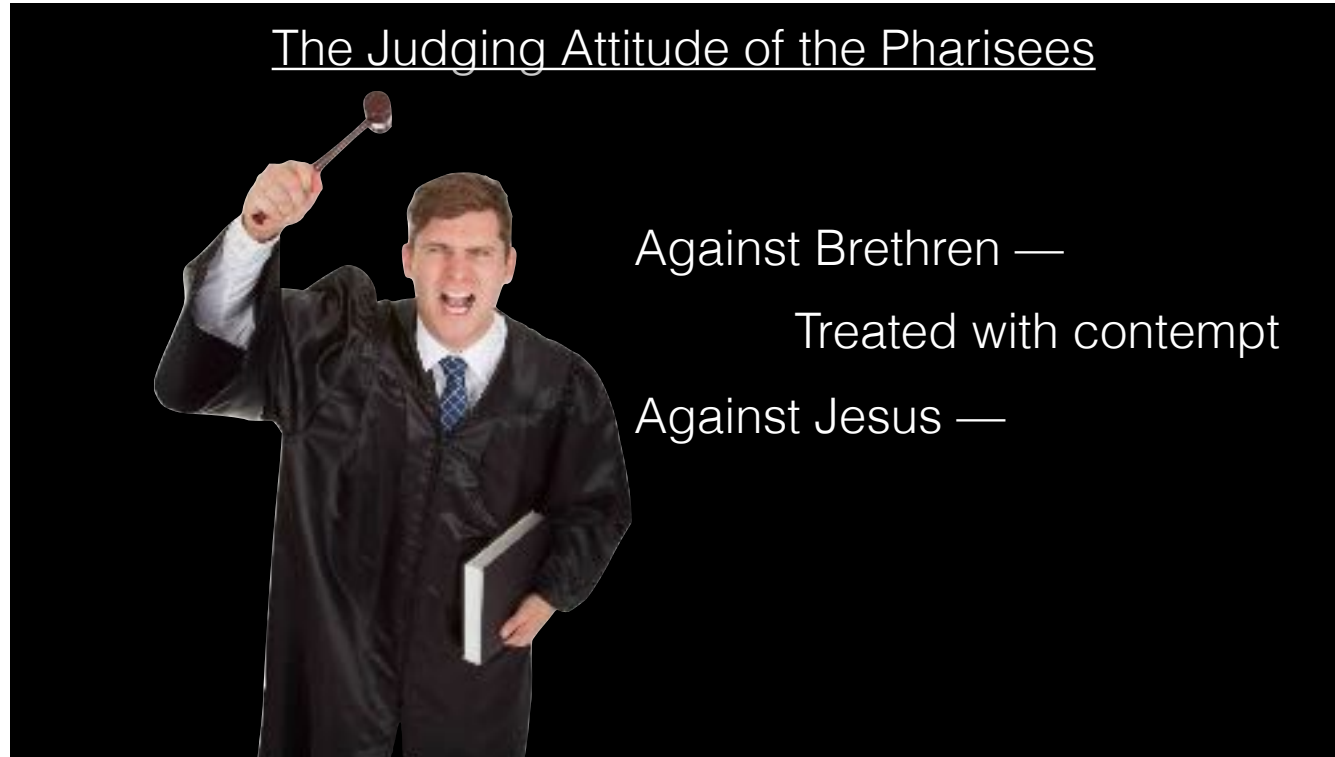


Against Brethren —

Treated with contempt

- “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?”
- 11 She said, “No one, Lord.”
- And Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.”

## The Judging Attitude of the Pharisees



Against Brethren —

Treated with contempt

Against Jesus —

- They constantly were judging Jesus
  - Saw Him as a “brother”, but one who was wrong about so many things

## The Judging Attitude of the Pharisees



Against Brethren —

Treated with contempt

Against Jesus —

His Disciples

- His Disciples

- Matthew 12:2: But when the Pharisees saw it, they said to him, “Look, your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath.”
- Matthew 15:1-2: Then Pharisees and scribes came to Jesus from Jerusalem and said, “Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat.”

## The Judging Attitude of the Pharisees



Against Brethren —

Treated with contempt

Against Jesus —

His Disciples

His Holiness

- His Holiness...
  - Who he ate with (tax collectors and sinners): Mt. 9:11; Lk. 15:2
    - Jesus was in fellowship with unholy people, who rightly should be avoided by those who are holy.
    - Matthew 9:11: And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?”

## The Judging Attitude of the Pharisees



Against Brethren —

Treated with contempt

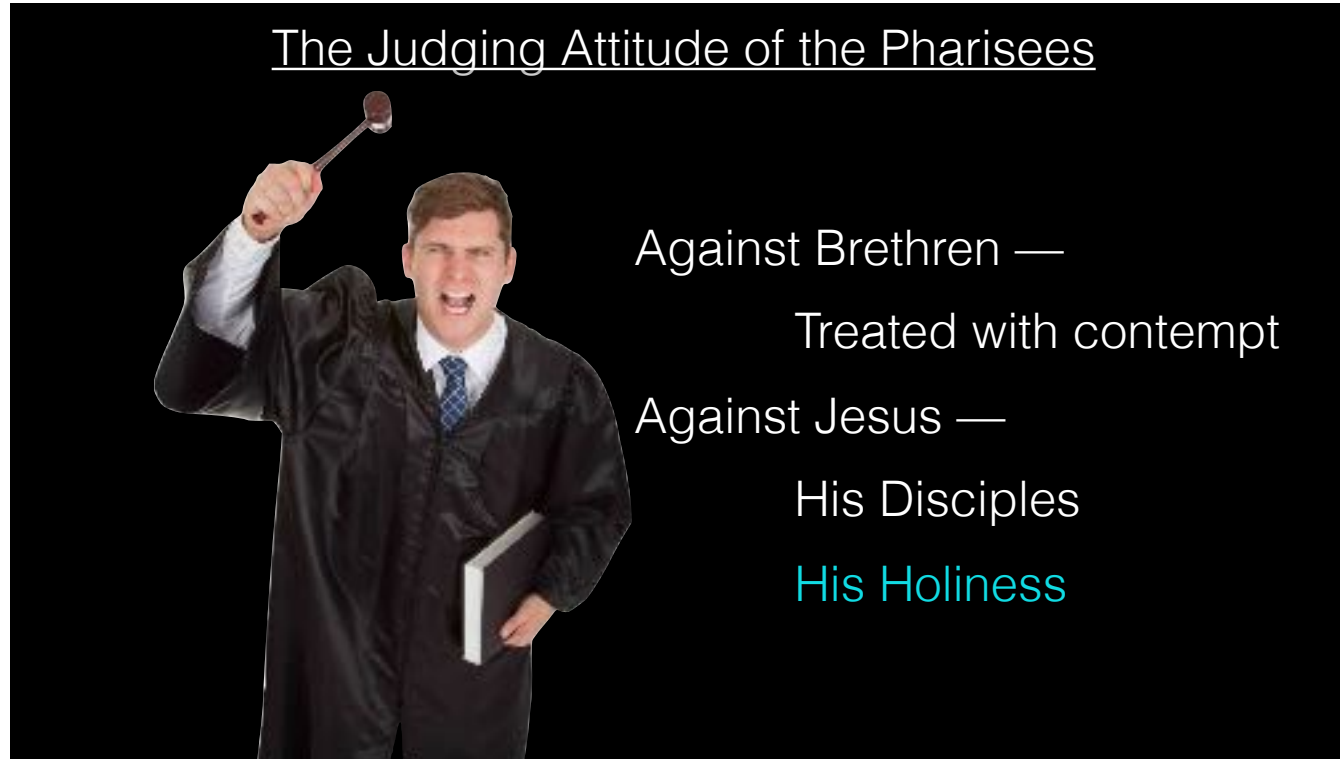
Against Jesus —

His Disciples

His Holiness

- His Holiness...
  - Luke 15:2: And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

## The Judging Attitude of the Pharisees



Against Brethren —

Treated with contempt

Against Jesus —

His Disciples

His Holiness

- What he knew: Luke 7:39
  - If prophet, would have “known who and what sort of woman”
  - If He was Holy
    - He would condemn this woman
    - He wouldn’t let her touch him (fellowship, again)
      - And tradition!
        - Women were often demeaned by the Pharisees.

## The Judging Attitude of the Pharisees



Against Brethren —  
Treated with contempt  
Against Jesus —  
His Disciples  
His Holiness

- Source of Power: Demons
  - How else explain power to do miracles?
  - Matthew 9:34: But the Pharisees said, “He casts out demons by the prince of demons.”



## The Judging Attitude of the Pharisees



Against Brethren —

Treated with contempt

Against Jesus —

His Disciples

His Holiness

His Faithfulness

- His Faithfulness
  - Luke 11:38: The Pharisee was astonished to see that he did not first wash before dinner.
  - Disciples didn't wash hands either: Mt. 15:1-2
  - Questioned his honoring the Word of God... because he didn't keep their own traditions
    - "ASTONISHED"
    - unthinkable
    - washing was basic, essential, everyone did it!

## The Judging Attitude of the Pharisees



Against Brethren —

Treated with contempt

Against Jesus —

His Disciples

His Holiness

His Faithfulness

- Did they treat their Savior and Lord with Contempt?
- Did they judge by appearance or right judgment?
- This seems to be the type of judgment that Jesus' audience was not just accustomed to, but often subjected to, by the S&P.

## The Judging Attitude of the Pharisees



Against Brethren —

Treated with contempt

Against Jesus —

His Disciples

His Holiness

His Faithfulness

- This is NOT righteousness
  - it gives the appearance of righteousness
- This is not how my Heavenly Father wants me to practice righteousness!
- This is self-righteousness and contempt!

# Judge **NOT**

- God is Judge, I am brother
  - His law, He's just, He knows
- Have a healthy eye
  - don't treat with contempt
  - don't presume and assume
- Right judgment to provide help to my brother in Christ
  - Judging distracts me from helping.

**We implore you on  
behalf of Christ,  
be reconciled to God.**

**2 Corinthians 5:20**

Let all that you do be done in love.

1 Corinthians 16:14



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## Judge Not: How the Pharisees Judged

Matthew 7:1-2

Synopsis: Jesus teaches us that when we practice our righteousness we must never judge others. It seems to me that the Pharisees excelled in harsh judgment of others as an aspect of their practicing righteousness. To many of their brethren, they would have assumed that this type of judging was righteous, but it is not.

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**"Let all that you do be done with love."**