

*DISCERNMENT IN A DAY OF DECEPTION*

**TO JUDGE OR NOT TO JUDGE?**

*Matthew 7:1-6      Jeff Schreve*

*“Judge not, that you be not judged.”*

*Matthew 7:1 ESV*

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

*John 7:24*

*But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil. 1 Thessalonians 5:21-22*

**Is it right or wrong for a Christian to judge?**

**1. It is wrong to judge when ...**

**A. We assume the place of God.**

*There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the One who is able to save and to destroy; but who are you to judge your neighbor? James 4:12*

**B. We judge someone's heart and motives.**

*Therefore do not go on passing judgment before the time, but wait until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of men's hearts; and then each man's praise will come to him from God. 1 Corinthians 4:5*

**C. We judge from a hypocritical and self-righteous heart.**

*And why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Matthew 7:3*

*Therefore you are without excuse, every man of you who passes judgment, for in that you judge another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things. And we know that the judgment of God rightly falls upon those who practice such things. And do you suppose this, O man, when you pass judgment upon those who practice such things and do the same yourself, that you will escape the judgment of God? Romans 2:1-3*

**D. We judge in gray areas.**

## 2. It is right to judge when ...

### A. We are judging ourselves.

*But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself, if he does not judge the body rightly. For this reason many among you are weak and sick, and a number sleep.*

*1 Corinthians 11:28-30*

### B. We are helping another believer caught in sin.

*Brethren, even if a man is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, lest you too be tempted. Galatians 6:1*

### C. We are examining teachers/teaching.

### D. We are dealing with mockers.

*Do not give what is holy to dogs, and do not throw your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces. Matthew 7:6*

**Will you judge yourself today with righteous judgment?**