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I am simply amazed at all the false teaching in the Church World today – false teaching has truly reached avalanche proportions (which Jesus explained in a vision to Steve Hill). See the following link: http://housechurchministriesforjesus.com/downloads/steve-hill_false-teaching-at-avalanche-proportions/

Before I teach on the subject of judgment, I would like you to see that there are two kinds of sinners on the earth today:

1. The unregenerate sinner (headed for hell), and
2. The born again sinner (headed for heaven) Rom 7:14-25

In the past, we have referred to ourselves as “born again believers” and those who are not born again as the “lost sinners.” Unfortunately, referring to ourselves as “born again believers” obscures (hides) the fact that we born again **believers do sin daily**, and **we are required to confess and repent of those sins daily** (1 John 1:8-9).

I love it when an unregenerate sinner looks down their self-righteous nose at me to proclaim that they have lived a more righteous life than me. I never argue. I just respond by saying “you do not have to be perfect to go to heaven – just forgiven.” Jesus paid the price for everyone’s sin, but only the born again sinner has received his/her redemption.

Unfortunately, the false teaching of “once saved always saved” is simply not true. The born again believer can fall from grace and lose his/her salvation – and many have fallen from grace and lost their eternal salvation (for a complete discussion on this topic see Kenneth Hagin’s book “I Believe In Visions”). So, the reason I like to refer to “born again believers” as “born again sinners” is because the Bible exhorts us to:

“Examine yourselves [make trial of, test, are you passing God’s tests of obedience, do you succumb to the devil’s temptations], whether ye be in the faith.” (2 Cor 13:5).

And, Jesus said:

“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.” (Matt 7:21)

The point that I am trying to make is that we “born again sinners” are required to **examine (or judge) ourselves daily**. And, when we examine (judge) ourselves daily we must also **confess and repent of our sins daily** or:

1. We disqualify ourselves from judging (helping) others, and
2. Without daily confessing and repenting of sins, **the law of sin and death will be destroying us (sending us to heaven prematurely)**.

Again, the problem with referring to ourselves as “born again believers” is that we fail to recognize that we sin daily. Unconfessed sin becomes an open door for the devil to attack you. When you think of yourself as a believer rather than a sinner, a person might go for years and years and years and never confess their daily sins to God. That is a lot of time and a lot of sins for the devil to work with. The Bible exhorts us to examine ourselves (2 Cor 13:5) and then confess and repent of those sins daily (1 John 1:8-9). As explained earlier, failure to daily confess and repent of sins gives the law of sin and death opportunity to send you to heaven prematurely.

If we examine (judge) ourselves daily, then we are able to see clearly to judge (help) others. **You say “I thought we were not supposed to judge others?”** Well, that is the false teaching that we commonly hear from the pulpit every week. But, **the truth is** that Christians are required to judge everything. Specifically, **we are to make Godly judgments and not make un-Godly judgments.** Examples of un-Godly judgments would include “hypocritical” judgments or “bitter root” judgments (“bitter root” judgments are simply un-Godly opinions and un-Godly beliefs based upon the un-Godly sin of bitterness).

Keep in mind that God sovereignly decided to relegate authority to mankind as His policemen/policewomen on the earth. It is the Christian (those born again sinners) who have been given God’s authority and the Word of God (the Bible) with which to make judgments of what is right and wrong (what is Scriptural or not Scriptural, what is of God and what is not of God).

When a preacher from behind the pulpit says “we should not judge,” that is the equivalent of blasphemy (profane, secular attitudes without scriptural support and un-Biblical preaching). Before we prove scripturally that Christians are required to judge everything, let’s talk about **what we Christians are supposed to do and not do with those judgments.**

First of all, we are not to criticize, talk ugly about, and condemn someone to hell. Our job as Christians is to bless, proclaim, prophecy into existence and help the unregenerate sinner to heaven. As it is written:

John 3:17-18 (KJV)

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

Having explained the above, we can now present the scriptures which prove that the Christian is required to judge everything. Keep in mind that the devil prefers to preach his lies from the pulpit. Therefore, it should come as no surprise that the Church World is falsely quoting Matt 7:1 out of context, telling us that we are not supposed to judge when **the intended meaning of Matt. 7:1** is EXACTLY THE OPPOSITE.

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Matt 7:1-5 is saying that we ARE supposed to judge righteously rather than judge hypocritically. Matt 7:1-5 is telling us to FIRST JUDGE OURSELVES so that we can see clearly to MAKE ACCURAGE, RIGHTEOUS JUDGEMENTS. Simply put, **the Christian is to JUDGE EVERYTHING** using the Bible as the written standard.

1 Corinthians 2:15 (KJV)

15 **But he that is spiritual judgeth all things**, yet he himself is judged of no man [The spiritual man reports to and gives an account to Jesus. Thus, God is his final Judge, not mankind.]

Titus 2:15 (KJV)

15 These things speak, and exhort, and **rebuke** with all authority. Let no man despise thee. [Rebuke = 1651]

1. To convict

- a. With a suggestion of shame of the person convicted
- b. By conviction, to bring to the light, to expose

2. To find fault with

- a. By word, to reprehend severely, to call to account, show one his fault, demand an explanation
- b. By deed, to chasten, to punish

2 Timothy 4:2 (KJV)

2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, **rebuke**, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine. [Rebuke = 2008]

1. To adjudge (**judge, sentence**)
2. To **tax with fault**, to admonish or **charge sharply**

Do we see examples in the new testament where people were found to have fault, were convicted, exposed, shamed publicly, charged sharply, judged, sentenced and punished? The short answer is – yes! In fact, there are many such examples.

As you can see below, the Apostle Paul had no problem judging and sentencing someone to have their flesh destroyed:

1 Corinthians 5:1-5 (KJV)

1 It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife.

2 And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you.

3 **For I verily**, as absent in body, but present in spirit, **have judged already**, as though I were present, concerning him that hath so done this deed,

4 In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ,

5 To **deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh**, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

As you can see below, Peter on two occasions had no problem judging someone and watching them die as a result:

Acts 5:1-6 (KJV)

1 But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession,
2 And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet.
3 But **Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie** to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?
4 Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.
5 And **Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost**: and great fear came on all them that heard these things.
6 And **the young men** arose, wound him up, and carried him out, and **buried him**.

Acts 8:18-20 (KJV)

18 And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,
19 Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost.
20 But **Peter said unto him, thy money perish with thee**, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.

Did you know that **Jesus talked about, exposed, shamed and judged people?**

Matthew 23:1-3 (AMP)

1 Then Jesus said to the multitudes [**here Jesus is talking about, exposing and shaming**] and to His disciples,
2 The scribes and Pharisees sit on Moses' seat [of authority].
3 So observe and practice all they tell you; but do not do what they do, for they preach, but do not practice.

Matthew 23:27-28 (KJV)

27 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness.
28 Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity [**Jesus judged (the person and what they had become) but notice that Jesus DID NOT condemn them to hell**]

Matthew 21:12-13 (KJV)

12 And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves,

13 And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves [**Jesus judged (the person and what they were doing)**]

Luke 9:54-55 (KJV)

54 And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did? 55 But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of [**Jesus judged (the person and what spirit was operating in them)**]

One of the **Eight Rules Of Bible Interpretation** is that **Scripture Interprets Scripture**:

Every word in the Bible is part of a verse, every verse is part of a paragraph, every paragraph is part of a book, and every book is part of the whole of Scripture. In other words, you cannot interpret a specific passage without looking at all the other Scriptures in the Bible.

So now, let's look at all the Bible verses below which tell us that Christians are REQUIRED to judge:

Proverbs 31:9 (KJV)

9 Open thy mouth, **judge righteously**, and plead the cause of the poor and needy.

Matthew 7:20-21 (KJV)

20 Wherefore **by their fruits ye shall know them**.

21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

Luke 7:43 (KJV)

43 Simon answered and said, I suppose that he, to whom he forgave most. And he [Jesus] said unto him, **Thou hast rightly judged**.

John 7:24 (KJV)

24 Judge not according to the appearance, but **judge righteous judgment**.

1 Corinthians 2:15 (KJV)

15 But **he that is spiritual judgeth all things**, yet he himself is judged of no man.

1 Corinthians 6:3 (KJV)

3 Know ye not that we **shall judge** angels? **how much more things that pertain to this life?**

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Yes, God is ultimately Judge of all things, but He has commanded us (God's policemen and policewomen) to judge according to the written Bible. Think about it, if there were no judgment:

1. All the prisons would be empty – serial killers, drug dealers, rapists, and murderers would be loose in your neighborhood.
2. You could not discipline your children and teach them not to steal, lie, do drugs, or give in to peer pressure
3. School could not be mandated by parents or government. But if children did attend, they could not be evaluated as to their progress. Students could not be graded or disciplined.
4. You could not judge any false doctrine and would have to allow it to be taught from your Church's pulpit.
5. You would be forced to leave your children with anyone who said they were a qualified baby-sitter. Later, you would not be allowed to become upset that this baby-sitter turned out to be a child-molester because "thou shalt not judge."
6. You should feel free to marry anyone that asked. You would not be allowed to worry about his/her character or beliefs. So if your spouse beats you up or cheats on you, then you would not be allowed to get mad because "thou shalt not judge."

Are you starting to understand that:

1. **It is the devil who wants you to stop judging,** and
2. The devil is using the church pulpit to preach his lies

If... you believe the devil's lie that "thou shalt not judge," then everyone is able to come out of the closet and sin openly more and more while the Christians cease to stand up for what is right, and the Christian would no longer be the salt of the earth. Contrary to the popular grace message (another half truth of the devil), there are grave consequences to sin – not only in this life, but also the eternal judgment to come.

When Christians stop judging:

1. Society will no longer be able to distinguish good from evil (Judges 17:6), and
2. Society buys into the politically correct idea of moral relativism, and
3. Society bows down to the devil's wishes to deceive us and our family and friends.

Think about it, we actually have Church leaders preaching "DO NOT JUDGE."

You cannot believe lies just because the lies are preached from the pulpit – wake up, wake up, wake up says the Apostle Paul:

Galatians 3 (KJV)

3 O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth

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Now that you understand that Scripture interprets Scripture, and that you must consider ALL the scriptures in the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, we now see clearly that in Matt 7:1-5 the understood meaning of the verse is that:

1. We are Biblically required to judge righteously
2. Because we are required to judge righteously, we must therefore not judge hypocritically :
 - a. First, judge yourself and get your own life cleaned up,
 - b. Then, you will be able to see clearly to help your brother out of sin “Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye (Matt 7:5)

Think about it - obviously God is going to use the Christian to judge (stand up for what is right and wrong). The emphasis is that God wants us to do that judging according to what is written in the Bible (correctly, righteously, with correct motivation – not hypocritically, and not with lies mixed in or half truths). So... if there is sin in your life (a hypocrite not practicing what you preach), then your judgments will be clouded (you will not be able to see clearly to help others). But... **it is the devil who wants you to (completely) stop judging (truth from error)**. Are you now saying – WOW – how did I swallow all those lies that judging was wrong?

Other misquoted Scriptures:

1. Rom 14:3-10 is about dietary preferences, not things essential to salvation
2. Rom 2:1-3, is the same scenario as Matt. Chapter 7 – first clean up your own life through repentance and faith, then you are qualified to judge others.
3. James 4:11 says that we are not to speak evil of other “brethren” – those who are obediently doing the will of God (Matt 12:50). This does not apply to those living in willful sin. The Apostle Paul explains this:

1 Corinthians 5:9-13 (KJV)

9 I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators:

10 Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world.

11 But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolator, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.

12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?

13 But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.

1 Corinthians 5:12-13 (AMP)

12 What [business] of mine is it and what right have I to judge outsiders? Is it not **those inside [the church] upon whom you are to pass disciplinary judgment** [passing censuring sentence on them as the facts require]?

13 God alone sits in judgment on those who are outside. Drive out that wicked one from among you [**expel him from your church**].

In Summary:

1. **Jesus judged people – called them “white washed sepulchers” and “hypocrites”** (Matt 23:27-28), but Jesus did not condemn them to hell. Jesus told them the truth (that they were hypocrites in danger of damnation Matt 23:14). But again, Jesus did not condemn them to hell (John 3:17-18)
2. The Apostle Paul judged and sentenced an individual to have their flesh destroyed by satan. Peter judged Ananias and Sapphira and watched them die as a result.
3. Judging is clearly Biblical – not only allowed but commanded in the Bible. But... keep in mind that once you have formed an opinion about a certain issue, many times the handling of it is inappropriate:
 - a. How you confront the situation is another matter altogether. The way we act or react may either bring healing or destruction to those involved. We must always strive to bring the truth in a loving way
 - b. “Being right” and proving it in an unloving manner is not the best course of action
4. We are to judge righteously (John 7:24). Judge by the Word of God not by how tall or short the person is, etc. You may not have all the details of a situation to make a righteous judgment. Sometimes only God will have complete knowledge. If you must err, it is best to err towards mercy giving the person the benefit of a doubt.
5. We are to judge without hypocrisy. In other words, judge yourself first to see if you can judge another matter correctly. For example, fornication is wrong 100% of the time, but as to someone’s personal preferences for dress, TV shows, doctors for healing, etc. this depends on circumstances, their knowledge on the subject, their heart motivation, or outside factors that we may not be aware of. In such cases, agree to disagree and assume the best about your neighbor.
6. Remember to always bring everything back to the Bible and in a spirit of love. Only the truth sets people free (John 8:32). We must boldly declare and stand up for the Truth, but the results are up to God.
7. Get your theology from the Bible. Do not swallow everything that you hear from the pulpit (the pulpit is the devil’s favorite place from which to teach lies). Make sure that sermon lines up with what is written in the Bible (the whole Bible and not just one verse without regard to all the other verses in the Bible).

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