

JUDGEMENTS

Christians usually know that they are **not supposed to judge** others

- But most **don't really understand** what this means and what the **ramifications** are

¹“Judge not, that you be not judged. ²For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.” (Matthew 7:2)

"Judge" krinō kree'-no

Properly to *distinguish*, that is, **decide** (mentally or judicially); by implication to try, **condemn, punish**:—avenge, conclude, **condemn, damn, decree, determine**,

Judging means that we are essentially **taking a mental photograph** of a person at a **particular point in time** and declaring that **this is the way they will always be**

- But the Lord is “**not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.**” (2Pet. 3:9)

Change is what being a Christian is all about

- “**Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.**” (Romans 12:2)

Judgments are Curses

Our judgments of others act as a **curse upon them**

➤ “**Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in our brother's way.”** (Romans 14:13)

- We cannot **risk making judgments** because we **do not know everything** about that person's circumstances and heart

➤ “**For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.**” (1Corinthians 13:12)

Instead of judging others, we are supposed to “**restore him gently**” (Galatians 6:1 NIV) by “**speaking the truth in love**” (Ephesians 4:15, NKJ)

- Our **observations of others** must be **framed in love and compassion**, not in **criticism, condemnation, gossip and slander**

➤ “**Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. ²And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.”** (1Corinthians 13:1-3)

Judgments bring Curses back on Us!

Judgments that we place on others **also come back as a curse** upon us

- This is what the Lord means by “**measured back to you**”

➤ “**Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.**” (Romans 2:1)

- Many times, the **afflictions we suffer** are a **direct result** of the **judgments we have handed out** to others
 - We are, indeed, **literally condemning ourselves** – so when we **beg God for relief**, His hands are **tyed** until we come to **repentance** and **take back the judgments** and **sow forgiveness instead**

Judgments also Open the Door to the Devil

Not only do our **judgments curse us**, but they also **open a door** for the **devil to harass and oppress us**

➤ *“Pride goes before destruction, and a **haughty spirit** before a fall.”* (Proverbs 16:18)

It is a **common coping mechanism** to **substitute pride** for our own **low self-esteem** – i.e. we make **ourselves look better** by making **others look worse**

• However, **nothing good** comes out of **pride**

➤ *“By **pride** comes **nothing but strife**, but with the well-advised is wisdom.”* (Proverbs 13:10)

➤ *“For the **sin of their mouth** and the words of their lips, let them even be **taken in their pride**, and for the **cursing and lying** which they speak.”* (Psalm 59:12)

➤ *“**God resists the proud**, but gives grace to the humble.”* (James 4:6)

In addition, the **strongman** of the **Haughty Spirit** is given **legal license** to be **assigned** to us

• The **primary manifestations** of the **Haughty Spirit** are (“Steps In Deliverance” by Ralph and Elizabeth Brown, 1994)

➤ **Arrogance, pride, conceit, egotism, “holier than thou”**

➤ **Criticism, gossip, contentiousness, intolerance, envy, “know-it-all”, vanity**

➤ **Frustration, impatience, perfectionism, selfishness, stubbornness**

➤ **Justification, rationalization, spiritual blindness, spiritual deafness, unteachable**

➤ **Anger, brooding, confusion, dejection, gloominess,**

Leave all Judgments to the One True Judge

We must **leave judgment** to the one **True Judge** – **Jesus Christ**

➤ *“Therefore **judge nothing** before the time, until the **Lord comes**, who will both **bring to light** the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one’s praise will come from God.”* (1Corinthians 4:5)

➤ *“And He commanded us to **preach** to the people, and to **testify** that it is **He** who was ordained by God to be **Judge** of the living and the dead.”* (Acts 10:42)

Manifestations of the Haughty Spirit

Anger	Know-it-all
Argumentative	Learning problems
Arrogance	Logic
Boasting	Mockery
Brooding	Obstinacy
Conceit	Perfectionism
Confusion	Pride
Contentious	Quarrelsome
Counterfeiter	Rationalization
Critical	Reading problems
Controlling	Rebellion
Dejection	Rejection
Distraction	Scornful
Egotistic	Self-important, righteous
Envy	Selfishness, self-will
False humility	Shame
Forgetfulness	Sleepiness
Gloominess	Spiritual blindness, deafness, pride
Gossip	Stiff-necked
Holier-Than-Thou	Stubborn
Impatience	Tongue-tied
Intolerance	Unteachable
Irascible	Vanity
Jezebel	Violence
Judgmental	Witchcraft
Justification	Wrathful