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# HASTY & PREMATURE JUDGEMENTS

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# **H A S T Y** **& Premature** **JUDGMENTS**

**Teaching by Joyce Meyer**

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# HASTY AND PREMATURE JUDGMENTS

## I. Judge Nothing Before Its Time.

- A. **I Corinthians 4:5** – Beware of forming quick judgments.
- B. **John 8:1-16** explains the woman taken in adultery and how Jesus handled her and her accusers.
  - 1. Man judges according to the flesh, but God sees the heart.
  - 2. We quickly judge what we do not understand and have had no experience with.
  - 3. We judge based on “our carnal opinions” or the “lies” that Satan tells us.
  - 4. Examples:
    - a. You might look at a possession that someone has and “judge” that they should not be spending money on that item. The reality may be that someone gave it to them, or they received it as part of an inheritance.
    - b. We might see someone out shopping, purchasing something expensive; and it is a person whom we know to be struggling financially. We judge that they should not be buying that; when in reality, they may be shopping for someone else.

- C. **Isaiah 11:2** – Jesus walked in **discernment** – not natural opinions or hasty, premature judgments.
1. Taking time to let emotions and natural thinking settle helps us in discerning the truth.
  2. **Truth or facts?** Waiting helps us discern the difference.
  3. Jesus was never in a hurry – it is part of walking according to the Spirit.
- D. We love the following Scripture when applied to us, but are we willing to apply it to others?
1. **I Samuel 16:7** – *But the Lord said to Samuel, Look not on his appearance or at the height of his stature, for I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees; for man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.*
- E. God is a god of hearts.
1. **Acts 13:22** – David was a man after God’s own heart.
  2. **I Peter 3:3-4** – The hidden man of the heart is more important than the outward appearance.
  3. The Bible speaks of serving God with a **whole heart**, a **willing heart**, a **pure heart**, a **contrite heart**, a **new heart**, a **clean heart**, a **repentant heart**, and a **heart of compassion**.
- Serving God with a whole heart seems to be VERY IMPORTANT to the Lord. HE IS A GOD OF HEARTS!**
- F. **John 7:24** – Do not judge at a glance (superficially and by appearances); but judge fairly and righteously.

## II. The Harvest Of Judgment

- A. **Matthew 7:1-5** – However we judge others, we will be judged.
1. **Judge** (defined/Vine's) – The Greek word is used “of God.” It suggests that He who is the Judge of His people is at the same time their God. To judge means to set oneself up as God. Gives prominence to the mental process. To separate, select, choose; hence, to determine. To condemn; to form an opinion.
- B. **Matthew 7:1-6** – Read Message and BCJ translations.
- C. **Romans 14:4** – God is able to make His servants stand; therefore, be careful of judging them.
1. It is amazing the type of individual that God can use and uphold by His grace.
  2. We look for perfect people to work with, to work for us, to be in relationship with – we forget what we were like “before God.” We also fail to truly see what we are still like.
  3. We judge ourselves by our **INTENTIONS**, and we judge others by their **ACTIONS**.

## III. What About Mercy?

- A. **Lamentations 3:22-23** (KJV) – *It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning . . .*
- B. Mercy is one of God's number one character traits.
1. **Psalms 108:4** (KJV) – *For thy mercy is great above the heavens: and thy truth reacheth unto the clouds.*
  2. **Psalms 31:7** – *I will be glad and rejoice in Your mercy . . .*

We can only rejoice in relationships when mercy is flowing between the parties involved.

3. **Psalm 106:1; 107:1** – For His mercy endures forever; for He is good; for His mercy endures forever.
- C. **Luke 6:36** (KJV) – *Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful.*
- D. **James 2:13** – Mercy triumphs over judgment.
  1. It is a far better thing to show mercy than to issue judgment.

#### IV. **Blinded By Pride**

- A. **Romans 2:1-4** – We are **blinded** to our faults, then judge others for the same things we do ourselves.
- B. **Romans 12:3** – If leaders are **blinded** by pride, they will not remain leaders very long.
  1. Paul knew that in correction of others (which he was anointed to do), he needed to purpose to stay humble.
- C. **II Corinthians 4:4** – The god of this world has **blinded** the minds of the unbelievers that they should not see the truth of the Gospel.
  1. The Gospel – Trust in and lean on Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for everything. Pride has a difficult time being totally dependent.

#### **PRIDE IS INDEPENDENT!!**

- D. **Galatians 6:1-3** – Instead of judging others for their faults, try to help them; but do it with humility. If you don't, you may fall yourself.
- E. **I Corinthians 4:5** – Don't be hasty or premature in your judgments.
  1. Do not judge one person by another.

- a. A pastor resigns a congregation; the church measures the new pastor by the old one. Often a church that has had and enjoyed a certain pastor for many years will go through two or three before finally settling down and accepting someone totally new.
  - b. If a great marriage partner dies, it could be very hard to marry again – unless the remaining partner was wise enough not to compare another partner with the previous one.
2. Other examples:
- a. An old job with a new one
  - b. New friends
  - c. A new house after having one that you loved for years
  - d. A new city
  - e. A new church
  - f. Etc.
3. Remember change is difficult – give it some time.

**AVOID HASTY OR PREMATURE JUDGMENTS!**

**Temptation to judge others is a snakebite.**

**REMEMBER – SHAKE IT OFF!!**





