

## **Selected Slivers of the Sermon on the Mount-Part 2**

Our Lord's Sermon on the Slopes North of Capernaum Was a Perfect Message

1: For Unbelievers: Convinced Their Best Might Be Good Enough for Salvation

2: For Believers: to Convey What the Fruit of Salvation Is/Looks Like

### **Matthew 5:20**

Does NOT Teach Salvation by Works

DOES Teach the Impossibility of Salvation by Works

**HUGE Q: Who Does the Work/Gets the "Credit" for Your Salvation?**

### **Matthew 5:48**

Does NOT Teach That Believers are Expected to a Perfect/Sinless Life

DOES Teach Believers Should Agape Even Those Who are Extremely Hard to Love

**Serving Those Who Don't and/or Won't Serve Us is a KEY to True Christlikeness**

### **Matthew 6:1**

Does NOT Prohibit Believers from Living a Visible +R Life in the World (5:16)

DOES Teach Some Visible "Good Works" are Not Actually +R at All

**Spirituality is about a Living Relationship with Our Savior Not Just Rules/Rituals**

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### **THIS WEEK Matthew 7:1**

Does NOT Teach Believers Should Never Make Value Judgments

DOES Teach Believers Should Never Make Hyper-Critical or Hypocritical Value Judgments

**Don't Let Them Fool You! For Skeptics to Say: "There are Absolutely No Moral Absolutes!"**

**Is Like One of Us to Say "I Can't Speak a Word of English!" = "Self-Defeating Statements"**

### **Broad Paraphrase of Matthew 7:1-6**

Disciples of Jesus are not to make hypercritical or hypocritical moral judgments about others, in part because to the degree we are hyper-picky toward others now, God will critique us by that same standard in the future. Worse than that, it is ridiculous for us to freak out about minor issues in the lives of others when we ourselves are in the midst of major sin/spiritual error. This would be like criticizing our neighbor for running down our neighborhood because his car is a little dusty when our own car is a rusted out eyesore! We must deal first and primarily with our own spiritual issues before we even attempt to identify and deal with the issues of others. However, while believers are to be spiritual salt and light living out the Gospel in the world, we should not give malicious spiritual enemies of the Gospel details about sacred truth which they will immediately mock and use against us and the faith.

## **Matthew 7:1 (Really 7:1-6)**

Making Moral Judgments in a Fallen World is at Times Absolutely Necessary  
But Believers Must Do This the Right Way/Right Time

The Three Keys to Accurate Legitimate Bible Study/Interpretation

1: Context 2: Context 3: Context

### **The Context of Matthew 7:1 is Matthew 7:1-6**

**Looking at ALL of That Passage // Spiritual MRI of Matthew 7:1**

#### **Negative Command 7:1-4**

We are not to judge others...hypercritically or hypocritically v1

Specific warning against judging others hypercritically v2

Specific warning against judging others hypocritically v3-4

#### **Positive Command 7:5-6**

Before we judge others we must always do one thing v5

We must realize there are times when we must judge others v6

### **Take This To Heart from Matthew 7:1-6**

While believers are not to be hyper or hypocritical spiritual judges of all that is less than perfect in the world, neither should we be enablers of malicious evil.

### **Take This To Heart from the SOTM (5:1-7:28)**

Jesus Would Have Taught This Basic Content/Message 100s of Times

Believers Today Over the Course of Our Lives Should Read/Reflect on It Regularly

The SOTM: The WHAT/WHY of Christlikeness/True Biblical Discipleship

The Upper Room Discourse: The HOW of Christlikeness/True Biblical Discipleship

For More Information: See TBF's Spiritual Engine on the back page of the Bulletin