

QA: Why Is the Church So Judgmental? by John T Polk II

All Scriptures and comments are based on the New King James Version, unless otherwise noted.

QUESTION: "Why is the Church of Christ so judgmental, condemning everyone but themselves?"

REPLY: How can you see through the fog & smog of judgmental sinners and think condemnation is only coming from Christians?

1. **It is not wrong to teach what is right.** Moses taught Israelites:

Therefore you shall keep the commandment, the statutes, and the judgments which I command you today, to observe them. Then it shall come to pass, because you listen to these judgments, and keep and do them, that the LORD your God will keep with you the covenant and the mercy which He swore to your fathers. (**Deuteronomy 7:11-12**)

Therefore you shall love the LORD your God, and keep His charge, His statutes, His judgments, and His commandments always. (**Deuteronomy 11:1**)

Loving God means keeping His commandments and judgments. In the Bible, God has given His judgments about human behavior. It is not judging to preach God's judgments, for we are not making that judgment ourselves.

For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world. (1 Corinthians 11:31-32)

The "Church of Christ" is NOT "so judgmental," but simply insists on preaching and teaching what God's Word says is right! The "Church of Christ" has made no judgments on its own!

2. Judging is wrong when we are harsher on others than we are on ourselves.

Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. (Luke 6:37)

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. But we know that the judgment of God is according to truth against those who practice such things.

(Romans 2:1-2)

There is one standard of judgment from God for all:

Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead. (Acts 17:30-31)

Christians are thus asked:

But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. (Romans 14:10)

3. **Judging is right when we let God's judgments govern our actions.** Jesus commanded:

"Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment." (John 7:24)

Those appointed judges under the Law of Moses were told:

"You shall not show partiality in judgment; you shall hear the small as well as the great; you shall not be afraid in any man's presence, for the judgment is God's. The case that is too hard for you, bring to me, and I will hear it." (**Deuteronomy 1:17**)

As long as they were applying what God said, then "the judgment is God's." Under the Law of Christ, Jesus said:

"I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me." (John 5:30)

Jesus' final Judgment begins with:

"He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned." (Mark 16:16)

—— JTPII, June 9, 2019