One Lawgiver & Judge

Tony Mauck · James 4:11–12

INTRODUCTION

- I want you to think just about your view of yourself.

1 Judge With Righteous Judgment

John 7:24; Matthew 7:1; John 7:51

- Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment.
- So Jesus is not talking about an absence of judgment altogether. What he is suggesting is that you need to be very careful when you judge.
- Whatever standard that you use in the judgment of another, that standard will be applied to you.
- Our law does not judge a man unless it first hears from him and knows what he is doing.

2 There Is Only One Lawgiver and Judge

James 4:11–12; James 4:7–10

- Some facts may even be beyond our scope of knowing. I am very limited in what I can know about others.
- He who speaks against a brother or judges his brother speaks against the law.
- There is only one lawgiver and judge, the one who is able to save and destroy.
- This statement flows out of a context of personal purity and humility.
- A proper regard for ourselves. First, rivet your focus upon your own behavior.

3 Wait Until the Lord Comes

1 Corinthians 4:1–5; 2 Corinthians 13:5

- May that actually be who we are: servants and stewards of the mysteries of God.
- I am conscious of nothing against myself. Yet, while I don't see anything, I am not acquitted by this.
- Do not go on passing judgment before the time. But wait until the Lord comes. Who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness.
- My assessments of others. I must do them carefully. But I must pursue with all of my being the praise that comes from God in the end.

4 The Highest Knowledge: The Mind of Christ

Colossians 1:9–12

- The highest knowledge you will ever develop is an understanding and a possession of the mind of Christ.

- We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives.
- So that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way.
- Let us judge humbly, carefully, righteously, and with knowledge.

5 Knowledge Makes Arrogance, but Love Edifies

2 Peter 3:18; 1 Corinthians 8:1–3; 1 Corinthians 13:2

- The accumulation of knowledge is an ongoing pursuit.
- We know that we have all knowledge. But knowledge makes arrogance. But love edifies.
- The goal of knowledge is not for you to exalt yourself and say, My, I'm so wonderful because of what I know.
- Even if I had all knowledge and did not practice love, it's worthless.

6 How We View Others of a Different Mind

- A lot of people are where they are because of strong cultural influences.
- Don't get carried away with yourself. We are what we are by the grace of God.
- Before getting on our high horse and just judging, maybe we should ask first, have we stopped to pray for ourselves and for them.
- We must not compromise the life to which Jesus calls us in his word.

THE CHALLENGE

Do you have such a faith? If the Lord were to return today, will he find faith?

MY NOTES