

The Apostles' Creed



The Apostles' Creed

- *Intro to the Creed Itself*
- *God the Father*
- *God the Son*
 - *Christ's Birth*
 - *Christ's Crucifixion and Death*
 - *Christ's Death and Resurrection*
 - *Christ in Heaven*
 - *Christ as Judge (part 1)*



Christ as Judge

- “We believe in... Jesus Christ... Who ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from where He shall come to judge both the living and the dead...”
 - Remember, we're taking this in chunks...
 - The first time, we talked a bit about “Heaven” and what that word means in the Bible
 - The *last* time, we talked about what it means that Jesus sits at God the Father's “right hand”...
 - So this time, let's focus on Jesus judging “both the living and the dead” here



Christ as Judge



Funky little teaching moment...

- But first, we have to deal with the elephant in the room here
 - Most modern Americans categorically *hate* the idea of being judged by *anybody*
 - We will judge anyone who even remotely seems judgemental as a judgey judger who should be judged (I mean, it's okay to hate the haters, right?)

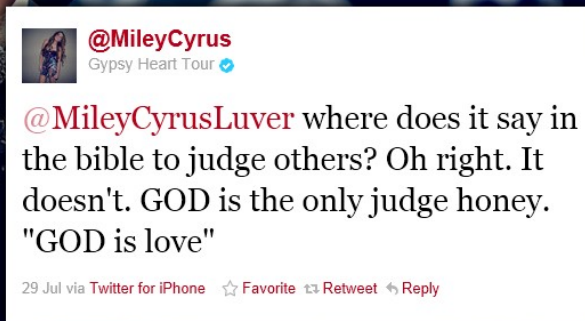


Christ as Judge



Funky little teaching moment...

- But first, we have to deal with the elephant in the room here
 - Most modern Americans categorically *hate* the idea of being judged by *anybody*
 - We will judge anyone who even remotely seems judgemental as a judgey judge who should be judge—though anyone who judges the stuff that *we* judge is just being, y'know, one of the “good guys”
 - Besides, if Miley Cyrus has taught us anything, it's that *only God* can judge us, right?
 - And since God is love, and love is never judgmental, then we're never *really* judged, right?
 - Besides, where in the Bible does it ever say that we should judge others?



Christ as Judge



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- But first, we have to deal with the elephant in the room here
 - Most modern Americans categorically *hate* the idea of being judged by *anybody*
 - Let's look at some Bible verses about us judging
 - There's John 7:24
(where we're told by Jesus to “judge *rightly*”)



**DON'T
JUDGE
ME**



Christ as Judge



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 - Most modern Americans categorically *hate* the idea of being judged by *anybody*
 - Let's look at some Bible verses about us judging
 - There's John 7:24
 - Or Luke 12:57
(where Jesus asks, "Why don't you judge for yourselves what is right?")



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Christ as Judge



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 - Or Luke 12:57
 - Or 1 Corinthians 2:15
(where Paul says, "The person with the Spirit judges *all* things")



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 - Or Luke 12:57
 - Or 1 Corinthians 2:15
 - Or even 1 Corinthians 6:2-3
(where Paul reminds us, "Do you not know that the Lord's people will judge the world? And if you are to judge the world, are you not competent to judge trivial cases? Do you not know that we will judge *angels*? How much more the things of this life!")



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 - There's John 7:24
 - Or Luke 12:57
 - Or 1 Corinthians 2:15
 - Or even 1 Corinthians 6:2-3
 - NOTE: 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 follows that up—
("Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.")
 - So if we genuinely *love* people, then perhaps we should judge at least *those* things just a smidgey bit



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 - Or Luke 12:57
 - Or 1 Corinthians 2:15
 - Or even 1 Corinthians 6:2-3
 - Or Proverbs 31:9
(where we're taught that we should "speak up and judge *fairly*")



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 - There's John 7:24
 - Or Luke 12:57
 - Or 1 Corinthians 2:15
 - Or even 1 Corinthians 6:2-3
 - Or Proverbs 31:9
 - Or Proverbs 12:1
(which warns us that “whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is *stupid...*”)



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 - There's John 7:24
 - Or Luke 12:57
 - Or 1 Corinthians 2:15
 - Or even 1 Corinthians 6:2-3
 - Or Proverbs 31:9
 - Or Proverbs 12:1
 - So maybe Miley's not *entirely* theologically correct here...

- What did Jesus tell Nicodemus in John 3:19-21 about *why* people are so adverse to even a *healthy* judgment?



@MileyCyrus
Gypsy Heart Tour

@MileyCyrusLover where does it say in the bible to judge others? Oh right. It doesn't. GOD is the only judge honey. "GOD is love"

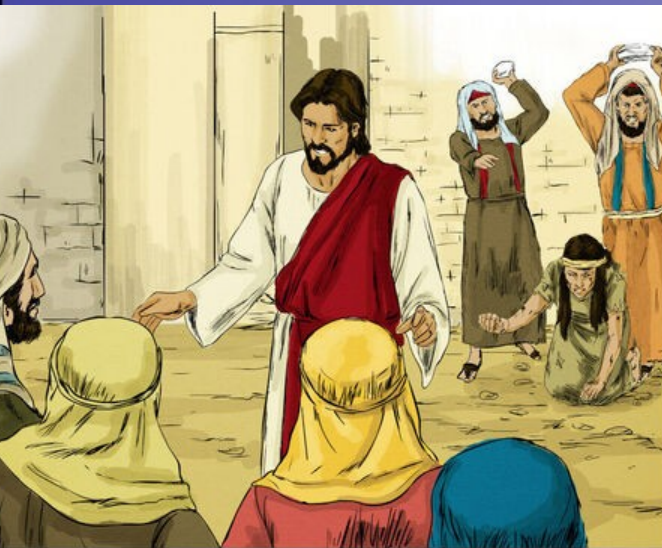


Christ as Judge



Funky little teaching moment...

- But first, we have to deal with the elephant in the room here
 - Most modern Americans categorically *hate* the idea of being judged by *anybody*
 - Let's look at some Bible verses about us judging
 - But didn't Jesus tell us that we have to be *perfect* in order to judge others—that only those *without sin* can cast the first stone?



Christ as Judge



Crazy deep dive into John 8...

- Read John 8:3-11
 - How would you summarize this story to someone?
 - Is Christ's point here that we shouldn't judge people unless we're perfect?
 - Then what was Christ's point here?



Christ as Judge



Crazy deep dive into John 8...

- Read John 8:3-11
 - How would you summarize this story to someone?
 - Is Christ's point here that we shouldn't judge people unless we're perfect?
 - **FUN FACT:** the word that Jesus uses here isn't about judging so much as it is about *condemning*
 - The word "κρίνω" ("krinō") means "to judge" (well, really it originally comes from the idea of having consistent standards for and accurate measurements of things—so what does that tell you about "κρίνω"?)



Christ as Judge



Crazy deep dive into John 8...

- Read John 8:3-11
 - How would you summarize this story to someone?
 - Is Christ's point here that we shouldn't judge people unless we're perfect?
 - **FUN FACT:** the word that Jesus uses here isn't about judging so much as it is about *condemning*
 - The word "κρίνω" ("krinō") means "to judge" whereas the word that Jesus used here was "κατακρίνω" ("katakrinō")
(which indicates a specific judgment *against* someone else—i.e.; a *condemnation*)



Christ as Judge



Crazy deep dive into John 8...

- Read John 8:3-11
 - How would you summarize this story to someone?
 - So Jesus isn't saying here that we can't ever judge one another's actions
(for example, what does Jesus indicate about the morality of her actions in John 8:11?)



Christ as Judge



Crazy deep dive into John 8...

- Read John 8:3-11
 - How would you summarize this story to someone?
 - So Jesus isn't saying here that we can't ever judge one another's actions, but rather that even given His totally accurate and correct *judgment* of her actions, He Himself is still not going to *condemn* her for them—though she should totally stop doing them
 - I mean, do the math with me—
 - This story *can't* just be about how you can't judge others unless you're perfect because Jesus didn't *κατακρίνω* the woman when He had the chance, and He literally was perfect!
 - This story is *not* about us not judging, but about us showing mercy instead of jumping to condemnation of one another



Christ as Judge



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 - Most modern Americans categorically *hate* the idea of being judged by *anybody*
 - Let's look at some Bible verses about us judging
 - But didn't Jesus tell us that we have to be *perfect* in order to judge others?
 - Okay, but didn't Jesus specifically tell us *not* to judge, lest we be judged?
 - Read Matthew 7:1-2
 - For that matter, read Romans 2:1-3
 - Isn't this all pretty clear that we shouldn't be judging others—that it's inherently bad?

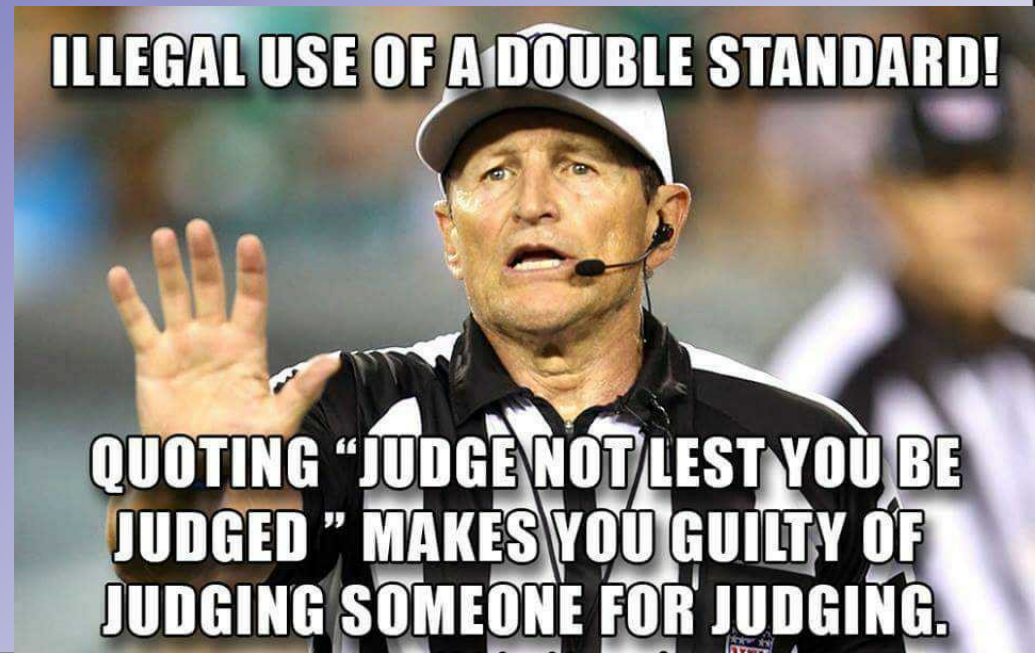


Christ as Judge



Crazy deep dive into the “judge not” verses...

- First off, Logic 101
 - Think about it—there's an inherent logical problem with using verses like these to judge anyone who ever judges anyone
 - So unless we want to argue that Jesus and Paul are hypocrites who don't know how to use logic, then maybe that's not what these verses are saying

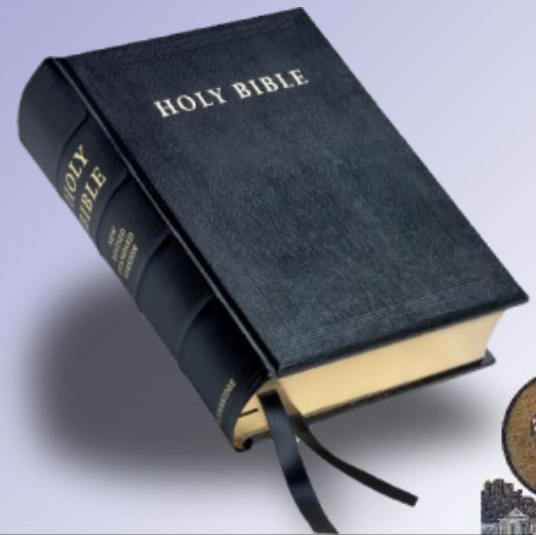


Christ as Judge



Crazy deep dive into the “judge not” verses...

- First off, Logic 101
- Second, Biblical Exegesis 101
 - If we're going to use the Bible at all to argue anything about any of this, then we have to consider the Bible to be some kind of authority
 - If it's an authoritative document, then it has to be at least fairly consistent in how it's directing us
 - And that suggests that the best way to try to exegete Scripture (rather than by eisegeting isolated verses) is by letting the corpus of Scripture inform Scripture
 - Which means that if we've been repeatedly told that we *should* judge others rightly, then *these* verses *can't* mean that we *shouldn't* ever judge others

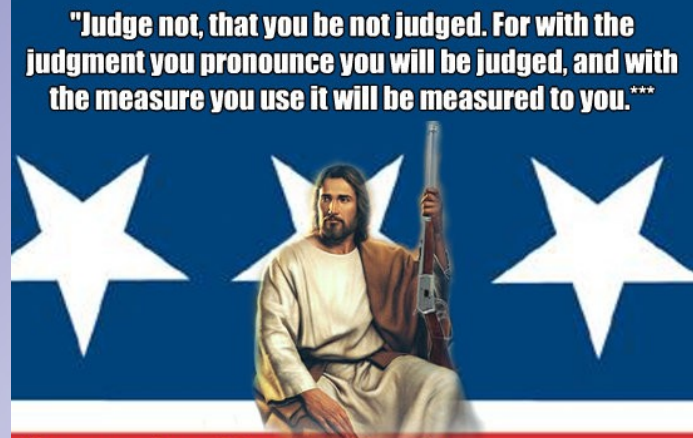


Christ as Judge



Crazy deep dive into the “judge not” verses...

- First off, Logic 101
- Second, Biblical Exegesis 101
- Third, let's look at those verses a bit closer...
 - Please re-read Matthew 7:1-2
 - And then keep on reading Matthew 7:3-5
 - Is the problem here that we should never use any form of moral judgment to assess any form of moral wrongdoing?
 - If so, then how can we even recognize that there's a “plank” in our *own* moral situation?
 - If not, then what's Jesus getting at here?



*** terms and conditions do NOT apply :
If you are a Republican
If you are worth more than \$10 million
If you have your own Church
- Republican Je\$u\$ reserves the right to judge ALL liberals

Christ as Judge



Crazy deep dive into the “judge not” verses...

- First off, Logic 101
- Second, Biblical Exegesis 101
- Third, let's look at those verses a bit closer...
 - Please re-read Matthew 7:1-2
 - Please re-read Romans 2:1-3
 - Is Paul's argument here consistent with what Jesus was saying in Matthew about judging hypocritically?
 - Note Paul's conclusion in verse 4
 - If improper behavior should never be judged, then what exactly would we need to repent of?



Christ as Judge



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- First off, Logic 101
- Second, Biblical Exegesis 101
- Third, let's look at those verses a bit closer...
 - Please re-read Matthew 7:1-2
 - Please re-read Romans 2:1-3
 - Please read Luke 6:36-38, 41-42
 - What context does Dr. Luke give us for this idea in verse 36?
 - Does showing mercy toward another person require that you see no wrong or “falling short” or moral disparity in that other person?
 - So is verse 38 a happy verse or a scary verse to read as a promise from Jesus Himself?
 - How would you even decide that?



Christ as Judge



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- **Third, let's look at those verses a bit closer...**
 - Please re-read Matthew 7:1-2
 - Please re-read Romans 2:1-3
 - **Please read Luke 6:36-38, 41-42**
 - What context does Dr. Luke give us for this idea in verse 36?
 - **Speaking of Greek words again, Jesus uses a couple of good ones here**
 - For instance, the word for “judge” here (and in Matthew, and in Romans) is “κρίνω” again
 - But then Jesus *elaborates* on what He means by the use of the word “καταδικάζω” (“katadikazō”) (which literally means “to expose evidence against,” but colloquially referred to punitive, vengeful justice—again, to actively *condemn*—which brings us back full-circle to what we saw in John 8)



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 - But didn't Jesus tell us that we have to be *perfect* in order to judge others?
 - Okay, but didn't Jesus specifically tell us *not* to judge, lest we be judged?
 - So how would you put all of this together?
 - How does James put it all together in James 4:10-12?
 - So if we get to judge (since we have the Holy Spirit within us), then shouldn't *Jesus* get to judge?
 - Of course, the world does weird things with that idea too, but we'll deal with that next time
 - In the meantime, how can we live all of this out?

