Mt.7.1-6 "To Judge or not to Judge" part 2 Matthew Series: 'THE KING IS COMING' #89 August 2, 2020

Krino (to judge) means to evaluate fairly in this context.

Jesus is referring to the judgment of <u>motives</u>. One must choose how to live in <u>relation</u> to others – _____ The difference between judging & condemning is learning to distinguish <u>moral</u> discernment from **personal** condemnation.

What Jesus here forbids is self-righteous, hasty, unmerciful, prejudiced, & unwarranted condemnation based on <u>human</u> standards & <u>human</u> understanding.

He gives 3 reasons why such judgment is sinful: it reveals a wrong view of God, a wrong view of others, & a wrong view of ourselves.

I. A WRONG VIEW OF GOD v.1

Whenever we judge in this way, we exercise a role that only **<u>God</u>** is qualified to make.

The Savior calls for men to **renounce** the presumptuous temptation to try to be God.

II. WRONG VIEW OF OTHERS v. 2

Mere <u>human</u> standards fall far short of God's holy & perfect law.

In criticizing unjustly or condemning unmercifully, we play God & ______

III. WRONG VIEW OF OURSELVES vv.3–5a

When we have a **wrong** view of **God**, we cannot but have a **wrong** view of **others** & of ourselves.

A *speck* is <u>not</u> an <u>insignificant</u> object to have in the eye. Jesus' comparison is between a sin that is <u>large</u> & one that is <u>gigantic</u>.

The wretched & gross sin that is always blind to its own sinfulness is <u>self-righteousness</u>. <u>Self-righteousness is a sin of blindness</u> – it <u>imagines</u> it sees only righteousness.

The very nature of self-righteousness is to justify self & condemn others.

People play **God**, because they judge themselves on the basis of their own standards & wisdom.

Self-righteousness is the worst of sins because it is **unbelief**.

It trusts in <u>self</u> rather than God.

It trusts in self to determine what is **<u>right</u> & <u>wrong</u>**

Self-righteousness claims to be both lawgiver & judge,

Consequently, it denies & opposes the **Gospel**, because the Gospel proclaims man's sinfulness & lostness even as it proclaims God's mercy & grace.

CONCLUSION:

Thus, the self-righteous person can never be anything but a **hypocrite**, _____(Ja.1.23–24). *PLEASE TYPE OUT* Is.6.9–10