

JUDGE: KRINO

By Mark Moore, PhD

There are several aspects of this word to be considered: (1) Why did Jesus say that He did not come into the world to judge the world but then wound up doing it? (2) What judgment and what kind of judgment is given to Christians? (3) Why and How are we not to judge? (4) And finally, in what way are we not to allow another to judge us?

I. Was Jesus the Judge? -- **YES**

- A. The purpose of Jesus' coming was NOT to judge the world (John 3:17). And indeed, He does not judge, but His word does (John 12:47, 48).
- B. At the same time Jesus is clearly stated to be the judge of the world (John 5:22, 30; 8:15, 16; Acts 17:31; 2 Tim. 4:1; Heb. 10:30).
- C. These two are simply reconciled by this: Jesus did not come in order to judge. That was not His desire or His purpose. But God knew all along that that would be one of the results of Christ's pilgrimage on the earth. Because of what He Said and because of what He did, he demands an alliance or a defiance. Either we will be saved by obedience to Jesus, or we will be condemned by rejecting Him.

II. What Judgment is Given to Christians?

- A. In the church:
 - 1. Morality (1 Cor. 5:12, 13): We judge if another Christian is living in an immoral way. We have an obligation to correct that person. NOTE: This judgment is not unto salvation.
 - 2. Arbitration (1 Cor 6:5): If two people are at odds, it is not right that a civil judge would have to settle the matter. One of the wise Elders should be used to do this.
- B. In the Judgment:
 - 1. Apostles will judge the 12 tribes of Israel (Mt. 19:28; Lk. 22:30).
 - 2. Christians will judge the world and the angels (1 Cor. 6:1-3).
 - 3. The righteous uncircumcision will judge the unrighteous circumcision (Romans 2:27).

III. Why and How are Christians NOT to Judge?

- A. How we are NOT to Judge:
 - 1. Not in Hypocrisy: Matthew 7:1,2; Luke 6:37; Romans 2:1-16.
 - 2. Not in Partiality: James 2:1-13.
 - 3. Not in Superiority or Condemnation: James 4:11.
- B. Not in Opinions: Romans 14:1-13.
- C. Why we are NOT to Judge:
 - 1. The word "judge" [Gk. KRINO] signifies, not simply the act of condemnation. Depending on the context, this may mean something as light as repudiation or something as heavy as sending a person to eternal damnation.
 - 2. Only God has the power and authority to send a person to hell.
 - 3. Since we are guilty of sin, we have no right to point at another person and call them a sinner, especially when we are guilty of that very sin for which we criticize the other.
 - 4. Only the master has the right to decide the destiny of his subjects. We are slaves of Jesus Christ, not of men. Thus we are not subjected to their condemnation, nor are they to ours.

IV. Christians are NOT to be Subject to Another's Judgment.

- A. We belong to Jesus.
- B. He, and He alone, has the right to deal with and discipline us.
- C. We are not subjected to human judgments: 1 Cor. 10:29; 11:31, 32; Col. 2:16.