

“The Parable of the Log and the Speck”  
Matthew 7:1-6/ Luke 6:37-42

*“Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will exalt you. Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. There is only one lawgiver and judge, He who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?” (James 4:11-12)*

- *“Judge not, that you be not judged.”*
  - The Bible is clear that the Christian has been called to judge....
    - Sin within the church (Matthew 18:15-17; 1 Corinthians 5:1-12).
    - False Teaching (1 John 4:1-6) and False Teachers (Matthew 7:15-20).
    - Some disputes between brothers in Christ (1 Corinthians 6:5-6).
- *“With the judgment and the measure you use....”*
  - We want to avoid judgment without mercy (Luke 6:36; James 2:13; Matthew 5:7).
  - We want to avoid judgment with condemnation (Romans 8:1 & 34; John 3:18-19).
  - We want to avoid judgment without forgiveness (Matthew 6:14-15; Matthew 18:35).
  - We want to avoid judgment with self-righteousness/hypocrisy (Matthew 7:5; Romans 2:1; Luke 16:15).
    - Our judgments should be generous in love, gentleness, patience, grace, mercy, and forgiveness.
- *“Why do you see the speck in your brother's eye but not the log in your own eye?”*
  - Self-righteousness and callousness (unrepentance) to sin leads to being blind to our own sin and hyper-sensitive to or hyper-critical of the sins of others (2 Samuel 12:5-7).
  - We must deal with our own sin properly if we are going to be useful to our brothers and sisters in Christ in addressing their sins (Psalm 51:10-13).
  - All confrontation of sin in others must be done in humility and gentleness realizing that you are a fellow sinner/saint (Galatians 6:1-3).
  - Here are some heart conditions we must be aware of in our lives (Psalm 139:23-24):
    - When we regularly assume the worst of others and the best of ourselves.
    - When we are more bothered by others' sins than our own.
    - When we judge people by their worst moments and give no value to anything else.
    - When we try to judge the motives of why someone did something.
    - When we offer ourselves more grace and mercy than others.

*“He who is not an enemy of his own sin will be an enemy to his brother. He who is an enemy to his own sin will be a great help to his brother.” (Matthew Henry)*

- *“Do not give dogs what is holy and do not throw your pearls before pigs....”*
  - A dog or a sow/pig is never a description of someone who is in Christ biblically (2 Peter 2:22; Proverbs 26:11).
  - People can reach a point when sharing biblical truths is no longer wise. They attack those who offer them something valuable (Acts 18:6). Something that is holy is set apart for God (1 Peter 1:15-16) and a pearl is the most valuable of the jewels (Matthew 13:45-46), they don't view the Scriptures in this way (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

**Worship:** I Stand Amazed (Norton Hall Band) As the Deer (Various Artists)

**Service Times:** Sundays: Revelation Class 4/Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7; Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7