Matt 7:1-12 - The Judgements of Jesus

The critical spirit

1) "Don't be Judgemental" - Mt 7:1

Bizarre interpretations

Jesus says don't have a "judgemental attitude" towards your fellow Christians.

See 1 Cor 5:12-13 and Mt 7:3-4

2) Towards gracious godliness

We notice the speck in another's eye but fail to notice the plank in our own eye!

Eg: King David

- ... focus on our own shortcomings
- ... humbly help with the speck in another's eye

3) When faced with hardened opposition v 6

v 6 "Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls before pigs. If you do they may trample them under their feet, and then turn and tear you to pieces."

Bizarre interpretations

See Mt 13:46 - pearl of great price

... This pearl should not be offered to those who persistently reject it and have hardened their hearts towards it.

Examples

A warning ... not an excuse to walk away from tough gospel opportunities

4) In trust, petition your loving Father v7-11

Flow of the argument

Therefore keep asking, seeking, knocking because (v 11) God gives good gifts.

5) The Golden Rule - v 12

"So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the law and prophets."

Bizarre interpretations

Persistently, prayerfully trust God and love others in obedience to God's law.

For us today

Matt 7:1-12 - The judgements of Jesus

1. Don't develop a judgmental attitude towards your fellow Christians as you mutually strive to obey Jesus' teachings.

Work hard at godly obedience in your own life

- 2. Don't live in isolation from each other... graciously encourage and support one another in godly obedience.
- 3. Some hearts are hardened towards God's word and have no intention of godly obedience.

Be someone who prayerfully trusts God to change both ourselves and others.

4. Treat others in the way you would like to be treated.

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