

Judge Not

Matthew 7:2

1. Introduction

When we receive advice from others, sometimes we feel grateful and sometimes we feel resentful. Even though the content of the advice is the same, the feeling of the receiver is different.

2. Testimony

When I was taking care of deaf children, one student came and said he liked me a lot, but one thing was missing: “When I did a bad thin, my father hit me, but you never do.” My non-violent pacifism was attacked!

If a child steals money from his friend and it is discovered and reported to his mother, as soon as the child comes home from school his mother may hit him so badly that he feels pain and cries. Very soon the pain goes away, but one thing never leave the child’s mind: tears from the mother’s eyes, tears of love. He can feel that the motivation behind his mother’s hitting him was that of love. When the child grows up and becomes an adult, he will remember the mother’s tears and he will be grateful to her for eternity.

If the father of his friend from whom the child took the money finds out, and if he is so angry that he comes to the child and hits him so badly that he feels pain and cries, the pain will go away very soon, but the hate in the father’s eyes remains in the memory of the child. The child will hate and resent him. The hitting is the same, the pain is the same, but the hearts behind the action are totally different. One is love, the other is hatred.

3. How about God?

God is a God of love, but He judged the people of Noah’s age with a gold judgment. Cain killed Abel, and Cain’s descendents became evil people, standing against God. The only way to save them was to let them pay for their sin (indemnity), but they did not have ears to listen to their Father, God. The only way was to give them a big spanking into the spirit world, and then they could repent in the spirit world. Therefore, God went Jesus to the people of the flood judgment to save them during the time of his three days of entombment. They must have been grateful for the judgment in the spirit world.

God's judgment came from love. God experienced more pain before he judged the people. How painful it was to have to hit someone whom he loved the most! Therefore, no one could accuse God's judgment, because the purpose behind it was salvation.

4. Let's come back to us

When someone made a mistake, or did a wrong thing against you, what kind of feeling was the real motivation behind your words or actions of reproof: love, or hatred?

If it is love, then you are qualified to give advice. He or she may react at first, but eventually when he or she feels your love, they will accept it and be grateful to you.

But if hatred or revenge is the real motivation, pray to God until peace and love comes to you. Never say or do anything until you can feel that peace and love.

Love is the only cure-all for the pains of man.