

Humility (VII): Don't Be Judgmental

I. Humility Lies in **Being Not Judgmental**

1. 1 Corinthians 4:1-5, *"Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes."*

- ♦ 1 Cor 4:1-2, A servant of God who is faithful to the mysteries of God must have many opportunities to be judged by men. Paul said, *"how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable."* 2 Timothy 4:2: *"preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching."* When the servant of God clearly sees that something has gone astray and that some believers are going into the net, he needs to reprove, rebuke, and exhort people, which are often uncomfortable to their old selves, no wonder Paul was judged by others as *"his bodily presence is weak, and his speech of no account."*
- ♦ In 1 Cor. 4:3, Paul felt that it was a *"very small thing"* because he was often judged, too much judged. **Sometimes we are too spoiled by our parents when we are young, and we grow up with too little derogation, rebuke, and judgment, so when we are judged or misjudged, we will feel hurt.**
- ♦ Brothers and sisters! Love your pastors and preachers more, for they are the ones most often picked up by the enemy to be shot at, and when the pastors fall to the ground, the flock is scattered, so let us take heed and not judge but suggest.
- ♦ Paul was truly a man without himself, so he said, *"In fact, I do not even judge myself. For I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me."*

There is a kind of proud people, very good at judging themselves. A truly humble person does not even judge himself. To be humble is to be without oneself, no matter how good or bad one's old self is, or how one looks in the eyes of others. Repent when you make a mistake, and embrace the love of the Lord right away, stop staying in the conviction. We do not know ourselves, and though we do not think we are wrong, we cannot be justified by it. But we come more to the light of the Lord, saying. "Lord! Judge me and shine upon me." **Don't keep condemning yourself, as if you have to speak of yourself as worthless in order to be humble, but in fact this is another kind of pride, that is, paying too much attention to "myself."**

- ♦ 2 Cor 4:5: *"Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes,"* **because we only see the outside and God will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.**

- ♦ A proud person is very judgmental, sure of his judgment in everything he looks at, “he is such a person,” as if his judgment is always guaranteed to be correct.
- ♦ If we judge someone and later find out that this is not the case, we must immediately confess our sins, and not pass by perfunctorily, thinking that this time it is not the case, but maybe next time it is the case. Deeply repent with the Lord: “Lord! Forgive my judgment and my pride.”
- ♦ The judgment is the spirit of pride deep in us. We feel that we are very accurate in seeing people, especially in looking at the negative things of others, rather than accurately seeing the positive things.
- ♦ If the spirit of judgment is in us, we will become easy to criticize and judge, and we will not feel it. If you are filled with judgment, when you come to a meeting, you will judge: “This person prays so loudly, and he raises his hand so much to show his love! Why does he cry like that every time? He must be faking it!” **How proud you are to be judgmental, to think of yourself as God, to stand in the position of a judge.**

2. John 8:12-15

- ♦ Our God does not judge people on earth. He says that He judges only when the Father tells Him, but He does not judge when the Father does not tell Him.
- ♦ And Jesus said to them all, *“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me...”* The Pharisees said to him, you are testifying for yourself, and your testimony is not true. If it were today, someone would say, “Who is so proud to say that he is the light of the world. So great! He who follows you does not walk in darkness!” The Pharisees at that time did not approve Jesus’s declaration.

There are some people whom we ask to share testimonies, but he says he doesn’t dare because he is afraid of being called proud. Very often, I judge people for what they are, and that is what I am. When a person testifies, we say that he is very proud because he makes himself look so good, and this is a clear indication of our internal state of mind when we say that others are the same. When we think that others love to show off, it is likely that I am like that inside myself.

3. Romans 2:1

- ♦ Romans 2:1, *“For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things.”* Very often, we judge others now, but one day on another occasion we do the same thing ourselves, and so we are judged by others.
- ♦ Especially in some spiritual ministries, if we think others who sing and testify on the stage are those who love to perform, it means that we are in fact a person who loves to perform.

Brothers and sisters! **Whenever we look at someone in a bad light, it is best that we first confess our sins: “Lord! It’s possible that I am like this, but circumstances have not yet revealed me, but I don’t know myself well enough!”**

- ♦ In whatsoever things you judge, you condemn yourself, because mercy triumphs over judgment. When others have sinned, I will have more mercy, and I will receive more mercy. When you too are weak and sinful, you will find that God and others treat you with mercy. But be careful not to do this to make provision for our own sins.

Do not judge people; do not accuse people with pride, because that is our self-righteousness!

- ♦ Many times we think we are more spiritual than others, but in fact we are Pharisees. Ask the Lord to make us more sensitive and more afraid of judgment.
- ♦ We need God to raise circumstances for us to examine whether we have pride or humility inside. Sometimes God raises a circumstance or someone asks a question, and the poison of our pride comes out immediately.

For example, the testimony of Elder Yong Wu.

4. 1 Samuel 1:12-16

- ♦ Hannah, one who had been praying to God with all her heart and soul, was told by a servant of God, *“How long will you go on being drunk?”* It is easy for us all to jump to conclusions. Eli didn’t just say that. Eli looked at her mouth and he tested, but Hannah was not the way he thought she was.
- ♦ We are also prone to look at appearances. Jesus said that we judge people by the appearance of the flesh. **In our lives, through our presumptuous judgments, we have caused so much harm to others.** When we see something, we judge it, and we don’t remember it, but when the next person hears it, he spreads the word, and it reaches the person’s ears, and it makes them cry for days and become a bitter person. We must take heed that we are of one nation, of the family of God. The man wounded by us is easily struck by the enemy’s arrows and taken captive. Therefore do not judge often!
- ♦ We should be aware that some people are quick to make an assertion, and later they find out that this is not true, but they are very stubborn and deep-rooted in their thinking, and they still cannot change their thinking.

II. Conclusion

- ♦ God is a Spirit, and you must worship Him in spirit and truth, and know Him. Brothers are very good at judging because they like to use their heads. The Lord Jesus said that He would not judge unless God gave Him the word. Our God is gentle and

humble, and the more humble we are, the easier it is to enter into His presence, so we have to follow the example of Paul and the Lord Jesus. I do not judge, I do not discuss, I do not say anything unless the Lord tells me to do so, otherwise, when you come to the judgment seat of Christ in the future, you will find that you are so humiliated, and it turns out that things are not as we think, though we may think that they make sense by reasoning.

- ♦ Some people go into a meeting and think, “What’s with the fervor? You don’t have to love the Lord like this! Be rational!” The Holy Spirit often works in everyone beyond our knowledge. The Holy Spirit fills all in all and has infinite gifts, so He does more than we can measure, we don’t know, we don’t understand, so don’t be too quick to judge!
- ♦ **Usually people who are very stubborn and cannot be easily changed or whose suggestions must be accepted by others are very arrogant and self-righteous.** It is not easy to listen to what others say, and not easy to change. We often hear but do not see. This shows our pride.
- ♦ Humility is expressed in life. That is, facing all kinds of things, you will not be very easy to judge others, will not be presumptuous, can easily change, are not stubborn, will not insist on your own views, and will listen to what others say.
- ♦ Pray that the Lord would help us to pursue humility. I do not judge others, and I do not even judge myself. It is the Lord who judges me, so it is a very small thing that I should be judged by others.
- ♦ If we have an opinion about others, we can go to the person directly, and speak the truth in love, rather than judge privately. Sometimes you will find that perhaps the facts have changed or the facts are not as you thought, you do not need to be there muttering and sin!
- ♦ **Humility is very practical. It’s not about whispering on purpose, saying “I can’t...I can’t do anything,” but it’s about paying attention to what I’m muttering inside and what my mouth is saying!**

Humility (VII) Assignment

1. Does your pastor teach, rebuke, admonish and exhort people in all things? Does your heart feel bad when you are rebuked?
2. Do you often judge yourself? Can you give me an example of a reason why you think you judge yourself?
3. Have you ever judged people and later found out that this is not the case? How did you react when you found out the truth? How do you deal with the aftermath?
4. Have you ever judged someone and then you did the same thing as someone else? Have you ever first judged others and then been judged by others for the same thing? Was there anything in which you had compassion for others, so that when you were weak, others also had compassion for you?
5. Has God ever raised up a circumstance or a person in your life shows your pride?
6. Did Eli's presumptuous statement about Hannah give you any light? Have you ever experienced anything like this?
7. Are there things that others have explained to you many times, but you can not listen to them and still insist on your own views, not being able to change?
8. How can we free ourselves from the bondage of judgment?
9. Scripture memorization: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5, Romans 2:1.