

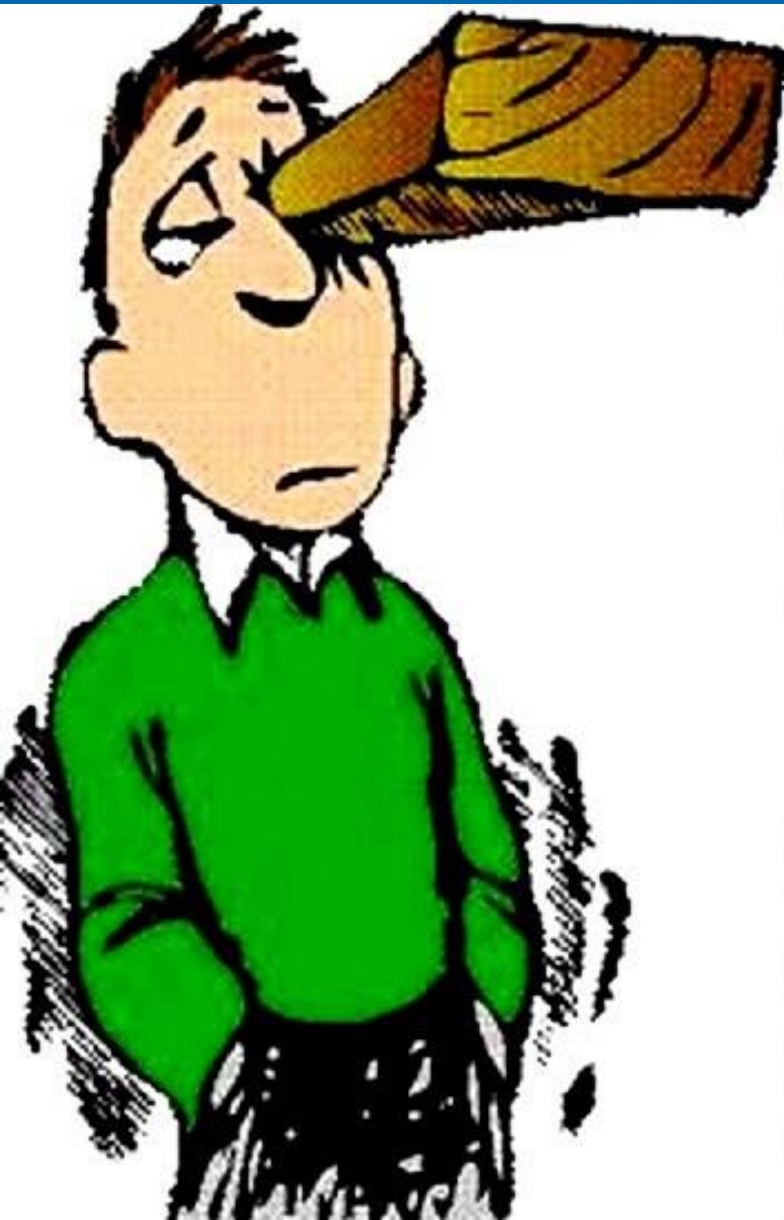
Do not judge,  
or you too will be judged.  
**Matthew 7:1**



- T. W. Manson
- Vs. 2 Christ explains why it is best for a Believer not to judge
- Manson explains that judging can shape the accused person's life
- Shaming is the primary way of judging
- In the West it involves humiliation
- In the East it involves loss of social status
- God judges us in a judicial sense



# HYPOCRISY !



- Our judging someone in a non-criminal sense, results in our sin being judged by God in a criminal sense!
- Outward behavior exposes one's inner condition
- Log in eye = major moral defect
- Splinter in eye = minor moral defect
- We'll stop looking for "splinters" when we remove our own "log"
- Romans 2:1 - 6





- Vs. 6 is a metaphorical statement about the need to keep the ritually holy separate from the ritually profane
- Must be seen within the arrival of the Kingdom of Heaven
- Revelation 21:27 *“Nothing impure may enter it....”*
- Things and people characterized by uncleanness and the lack of holiness have no place in the Kingdom



# JESUS SETS THE BAR HIGHER.... NOT LOWER!

- Matt.7:7 – 11 is an encouragement
- Christianity claims Yeshua lowered the bar for obedience and righteousness
- ICC commentary: The human problem of ignorance and arrogance
- Many in the crowd thought what Christ was asking was impossible to achieve
- Ask, seek & knock are action words



"Ask and it will be given to you;  
Seek and you will find;  
Knock and the door will  
be opened to you.  
For everyone  
who asks  
receives;  
he who  
seeks  
finds;  
and he who  
knocks  
the door  
will be  
opened.  
- Matthew 7:7-8

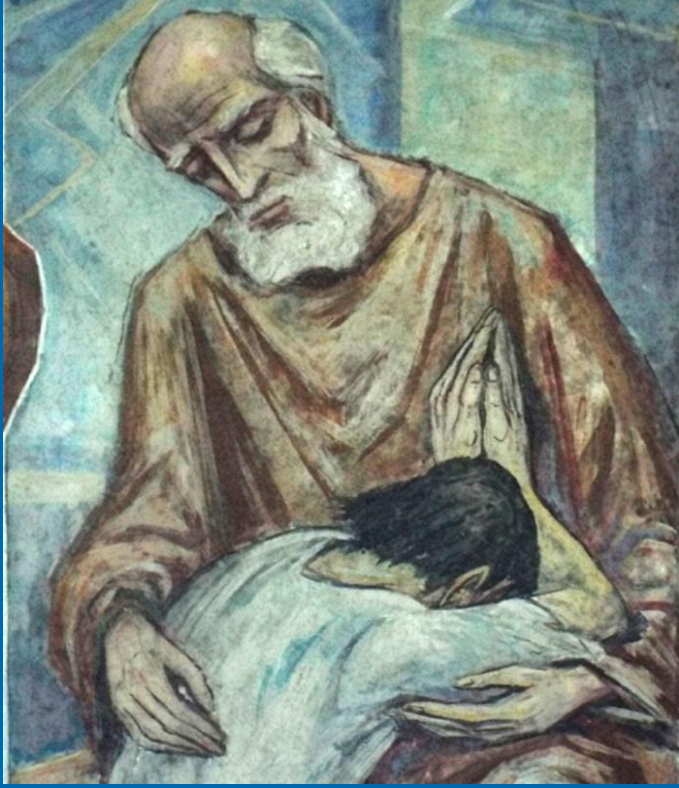
**Ask**  
**Seek**  
**Knock**



- To ask, seek, and knock are our means of rescue
- Passivity is a non-starter
- The meaning: We must DO something!
- The principle is driven by common sense
- God will never fail at His part, so the onus is on us
- *P'shat* = common sense is if you want something you must ask, seek, knock
- *Remez* = we are not to be discouraged at the target of moral perfection; God will show us the way







# FATHER AND SON

- Giving your son a stone for bread, and a snake for a fish is a rhetorical question
- The answer is an emphatic “of course not!”
- Therefore if a human father who is inherently evil compared to God is kind to his son, how much more The Father in Heaven
- Isaiah 49:15
- Jesus is offering reassurance to those who ask, seek, and knock





# THE SUMMATION OF THE BIBLE

- Matthew 7:12 The Golden Rule
- “The Law and the Prophets” = the entire *Tanakh* (OT)
- Another expression of loving your neighbor as yourself Lev.19:18
- Hard to conceptualize “love your neighbor as yourself”, but the Golden Rule makes it more concrete
- Romans 13:8 - 10





# THE TWO WAYS

- Deuteronomy 11:26 – 28
- The Two Ways is a governing dynamic of the Universe
- Deuteronomy 30:15
- Jeremiah 21:8
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Enoch 30
- ALWAYS the good way, the way of light, the way of life, and the way of righteousness are the more difficult



# THE NARROW GATE



- Matthew 19:24 The Eye of the Needle
- Only a few will escape God's judgment, and will do so by passing through the narrow gate
- *Euruchoros* = roomy, spacious
- Proverbs 28:6
- Neither poor nor rich are Godly virtues; but honesty is
- Tertullian: "*The way of evil is broad and well supplied with travelers; would not all men take its easy course if there were nothing to fear?*"





# PROPHETS

- False prophets were an enormous problem in Christ's day
- He was NOT talking about pagan prophets, but rather those within the Jewish religious system
- In 1<sup>st</sup> century Judaism, it was thought that the OT style of Prophet was no more
- In Yeshua's era a Prophet was one who taught the written Word (OT) and commented on it (like Paul)



# FALSE PROPHETS

- A False Prophet knows the truth... or ignores the truth.. and chooses to pervert God's Word for their own purposes
- Jeremiah 23:16
- Ezekiel 13:2
- Isaiah 9:14
- Acts 20:28 – 29
- Can a False Prophet actually be a Believer?
- False Prophets are not clearly labeled so we need a truth detector

