

Is it ever OK to Judge?

Many consider Christians to be too judgmental, and in the name of tolerance, love, and acceptance, suggest that it is never okay to judge. Satan is the great deceiver. I believe one of his more effective moves in recent decades is to foster social movements impacting core or traditional values. In the last fifty years or so, there have been significant social shifts toward equating judging with bigotry, linking moral standards with prejudice, viewing truth as being relative, and confusing what *feels good* with what *is good*. These new *mores* are prominent in media, reflected in recent laws, advanced in academia, and have become the prevailing sentiment in culture.

These social changes, and a misunderstanding of well-known verses such as, “*Judge not lest ye be judged*” ([Matthew 7:1-3](#)), have quieted the voice and influence of the Church. In short, many Christians do not *defend the faith* ([1 Peter 3:15](#)) for fear of being labeled a bigot, or because they do not understand that expressing biblical truths in love is biblical, and an expression of the love of God.

Christians are called to share their faith ([Matthew 28:18-20](#)) and guard against the encroachment of sin ([Ezekiel 33](#)). These are not suggestions—they are commands, and they evidence a true commitment to the Lord.

Many are quick to say that *Jesus loves and accepts all*. However, while it is true that Jesus extended love to all, it is also true He did not accept all behavior. He was quick to condemn behavior that conflicted with the moral code presented in Scripture. Why? Was Jesus mean, or prejudicial, or a bigot? No. He warned and rebuked people out of love. Because He cared for sinners, He constantly challenged individuals to recognize, confess, and move away from sin.

Jesus rebuked sinful behavior and mindsets harmful to spiritual development. Following the example of Christ, Christians are commanded to know Scripture, speak the truth, and rightly judge what is right and wrong (according to Scripture). The question is **not**, *should a Christian judge* but rather, **how** *should a Christian judge*?

The video teaching linked below provides a biblical overview of the *if, when, and hows* of judging.

Here is the link: <https://youtu.be/a7e-pf8ED6U>