

## Judging or Jesus?

The title of this blessing shows there is a choice. Will we judge someone or look away from them to Jesus, asking for his help? (1 Peter 5:7, Psalm 55:22, NKJV). Matthew 7:1-2 commands us not to judge and states there are consequences when we do. Romans 2:1 tells us when we judge another person, the consequence is we are equal in guilt with them. Matthew 7:3-5 reveals that the reason we judge another is we have the same fault in us. That fault makes us equally guilty.

I peel away a layer of Matthew 7:1-2 to expose that we also judge our situations. We judge them to be good or bad. Judging a situation bad brings worry, frustration, fear, and other emotional reactions. Beloved, we will always have opportunities to pass judgment on another person or a situation in which we find ourselves. When we pass judgment, it is not God who brings the torment of guilt and condemnation against us. No! It is Satan who is always looking for opportunities to bring worry, frustration, and fear to us. He hopes to steal our peace (1 Peter 5:8-10). And when he is successful, he will continue until he takes our life. Jesus is our best protection. He is our refuge and shield (Psalm 91:1-6). He wants to move us past judging another person and to resolve our situation. Stop and look at Jesus. By talking with him, you will lose the desire to judge. Then you will live in peace (John 14:27).

## Shalom!!

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