

Not Safe to Have an Opinion

- Frivolous lawsuits often end in damages assessed by relying on human opinion and judgement.
- Doctors, mechanics, and engineers had to adapt.
- Safer to rely on instruments to make the judgment Only pass on what these accurate instruments say.

Unequipped to always be right

- There is a way which <u>seems right</u> unto a man; But the end thereof are the ways of death. <u>Pr. 14:12</u>
- The first one to plead his cause seems right, until his neighbor comes and examines him. <u>Pr. 18:17</u>
- O Jehovah, I know that the way of man is <u>not in</u> <u>himself</u>: it is <u>not in man that walks to direct his</u> <u>steps</u>. Jer. 10:23
- If we can't even direct our own steps how can we direct the steps of others?

Opinions that were False

- Brought into the wilderness to kill us. Ex 16:3;
- You killed the people of God. Num 16:31
- You troubler of Israel 1 K 18:17
- Never prophecies good of me only evil 2 Chr. 18:7

Cast out your name as evil Lk 6:22

Stander based on Opinion

- The Jews answered and said unto him, Say we not well that you are a Samaritan, and have a demon? <u>Jn</u> <u>8:48</u>
- Have any of the rulers believed on him, or of the Pharisees? 49 But this multitude that knows not the law are accursed. Jn 7:48-49
- Their minds already made up.
- Facts no longer mattered!
- Jesus gave a warning we must all take to heart.
- Judge not according to appearance, but judge righteous judgment. <u>Jn. 7:24</u>

Judging Righteous Judgment?

- and why not (as we are slanderously reported, and as some affirm that we say), Let us do evil, that good may come? <u>Rom 3:8</u>
- All Jerusalem believed it:
- Men of Israel, help: This is the man that teacheth all men everywhere against the people, and the law, and this place; and moreover he brought Greeks also into the temple, and hath defiled this holy place. <u>Acts 21:28</u>
- Even after his defense they were unswayed.
- And they gave him audience unto this word; and they lifted up their voice, and said, Away with such a fellow from the earth: for it is not fit that he should live. <u>Acts</u> 22:22

Judging Righteous Judgment

15 'You shall do no injustice in judgment. You shall not be partial to the poor, nor honor the person of the mighty. In righteousness you shall judge your neighbor. 16 You shall not go about as a talebearer among your people; nor shall you take a stand against the life of your neighbor: I am the Lord. Lev 19:15-16

How Professions Adapted

- Don't have an opinion!
- Document facts!
- Keep in view a possible lawsuit & how you will justify each action in court!
- A Parallel for Christians?
 - Give an account for every word Mt 12:36-37
 - Stand before judgment & give account 2 Cor 5:10
 - How will our own judgments sound when we are explaining them to our Lord?
 - If we use Scripture to judge we are safe!

How Christians Adapt

"And if anyone hears My sayings, and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world. "He who rejects Me, and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day. Jn 12:47-48

- We don't form opinions based on our own thoughts and judgements.
- we quote Scripture and base our judgements on what the Scriptures say.

Use Scripture – Not Opinion

• Here, moreover, it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful. 3 But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man's judgment: yea, I judge not mine own self. 4 For I know nothing against myself; yet am I not hereby justified: but he that judges me is the Lord. 5 Wherefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and make manifest the counsels of the hearts; and then shall each man have his praise from God. 1Cor 4:2-5

Use Scripture – Not Opinion

Speak not one against another, brethren. He that speaks against a brother, or judges his brother, speaks against the law, and judges the law: but if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law, but a judge. 12 One (only) is the lawgiver and judge, (even) he who is able to save and to destroy: but who are you that judges your neighbor? James 4:11-12

If Scripture is Judging we Aren't

Judge not, that you be not judged. 2 For with what judgment you judge, you shall be judged: and with what measure you mete, it shall be measured unto you. <u>Mt</u> <u>7:1-2</u>

■ <u>WARNING:</u>

We will be judged by the exact standard we judge others.

Only ONE lawgiver & Judge

- We are commanded to defer to Him in all matters of judgment except those He specifically commanded us to act on.
- Our safest and first course should always be to not judge at all.
- Our second course after careful thought is to only judge what we are commanded to and no more.
- We judge conduct or teaching but not motive or intent.
- Always approach with great caution using abundant love and mercy and holding a great willingness to defer to the Lord.

What do we want Measured Back?

- Judge not, that ye be not judged. 2 For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured unto you. <u>Mt 7:1-2</u>
- So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty. 13 For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment. James 2:12-13
- If we want mercy measured back to us we must show mercy in our judgment now

Not Judgment A spirit of Gentleness

Brethren, even if a man be overtaken in any trespass, ye who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; looking to thyself, lest thou also be tempted. <u>Gal 6:1</u>