ye mete, it shall be measured to you." And James goes even further with this principle when he says, *"For he shall have judgment without mercy that hath showed no mercy"* (James 2:13).

Let me direct your attention to two more passages that further explain these words of Jesus. The first one is one of the great principles of the Gospel, sometimes referred to as the "Law of Harvest." It's found in Galatians 6:7 and simply says, *"Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap"*

The second passage is found immediately following our beginning scripture *"Judge not, that ye be not judged."* And I note to you that the mis-appliers of this *"Judge not"* verse disregard a verse just a few down from there. In verse 12 He says, *"Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."*

And, if we return to the "context" area of His statement in Matthew 7:1, read on down through the next 4 verses and you'll see Him enlarging, so to speak, on the meaning of *"Judging not."* He talks about removing a tiny speck of dust from his brother's eye all the while having a *"beam"* in his own. The idea here? Christians are not to be so quick to find fault with each other while overlooking their own shortcomings. Sort of like the old adage, "People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones."

In wrapping up, Jesus is not saying that we are to *"judge"* no one. He's simply pointing out that His followers are to not judge the way the world generally judges, i.e. not considering their own condition. It's one of the many lessons we find in His sermon about how Christians are to be different from the "world." How we are to treat each other – *"in love"* (many scriptures). That if we have that attitude, we will judge accordingly. The opposing idea is that we won't be hypocritical in our judgments.

The long and the short of it is we have to judge, but by the "fruits" that are discernible. In the way the world sees and uses this passage is, that we can't condemn any behavior. But if we follow that reasoning, we are then tacitly approving that behavior. Our job is to see it, judge it as to its effect on our own soul and, if it's wrong, avoid it. We are not judging their souls, only God has that authority.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Covey

RIGHTEOUSNESS EXALTETH A NATION:
BUT SIN IS A REPROACH TO ANY PEOPLE.
(Proverbs 14:34)

Highland Church of Christ

Sunday, August 2, 2026

Schedule of Services
Sunday
Bible Study……..…..9:45 am
Morning Worship…..10:45 am
Evening Lesson……..6:00 pm

Visit www.searchtv.org to view "In Search of the Lords Way"
Direct TV CH. 363 4:30 am

Welcome

We are happy to have you worship the Lord with us today. If you are a visitor, please fill out a visitor card and place in collection plate

Our WEB PAGE: highlandchurchofchristsocal.com

EVENTS	*BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES*
8-02 Bryan Haskins assisting w/song service PM	**8-1 Marty Halstead**
8-09 Potluck following AM service	**8-4 Imogene Davis**
8-16 Men's Mtg following AM service	**8-12 Tammy Price**
8-30 5th Sunday Song service PM	**8-17 Dee Garcia**
8-31 Bd/Ann lunch at Jenny's 11:30	**8-22 Frank Forsey**
	8-12 Frank & Faith Lewis
Door knocking 1st Saturday each month – Meet at building by 9:30 AM	**8-26 Chuck & Rene Evelyn**
	8-30 James & Sharon McIntyre

NEWS & NOTES

*** MAKE-UP PICTURES *Aug 16* for those who have not had their picture taken for our board.**
*** Starting this month, Bryan Haskins from Calimesa will be assisting with our 1st and 3rd Sunday evening song leading. *Welcome him and sing out.***
*** Congratulations to Riley Halstead who is now in the CNA program.**
*** We thank Don Halstead for another fine lesson last week.**
*** It was good to see James McIntyre, Joy Wheaton, and the Frisby's and all others who have been missing able to be with us last Sunday.**
*** Check the Bulletin Board for events here and area-wide.**

26814 Cypress St. Highland, CA 92346
Mailing: P.O. Box 187 Patton, CA 92369
(909) 862-3678

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR

Frank Lewis home from the hospital and dealing with blood pressure and diabetes; **Faith Lewis** with stomach problems and diabetes; **Roger McGee's** family in the recent death of Roger's brother; the **Evelyn** family going through difficult times; **Don Halstead** traveling today; **James McIntyre** with health; those suffering during this heat; young people of America that they turn to God to lead their lives; our fire, police, paramedics, military and those others working to keep us and America safe and God-fearing. Keep in prayer all the children returning to school soon that they stay safe and are taught according to God's Word.

Bible Questions of the Week

1. What was Jehoshaphat's reward for his obedience to God?

2. Who was lifted between heaven and earth by a lock of his hair?

3. What happened to the kids who made fun of a prophet's bald head?

Last week's Answers

Which king of Judah loved farming? **Uzziah (2 Chronicles 26:10)**

2. On what occasion did the Israelites pipe with pipes? **The anointing of Solomon (1 Kings 1:39-40)**

3. Where did King Asa do battle with the Ethiopians? **Valley of Zephathah (2 Chronicles 14:9-10)**

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

(8-2-2015)

"Judge not, that ye be not judged." **(Matthew 7:1)**

I know that I've addressed this topic before in editorials, but I saw a poster the other day that drew my mind back to it. The caption on the poster simply read: 'HOW PEOPLE IN OUR WORLD READ THE BIBLE TODAY. JUDGE NOT …." (rest of the poster blacked out). I thought this to be a very appropriate statement about how people do or don't read the Bible.

I believe that most people have a smattering knowledge of some of the things spoken in the Bible but really don't have a true understanding of them with the words on the poster being one of them. I'm quite sure that this poster is referring to the way a growing number of people in the world interpret Christ's words from Matthew 7, i.e. Don't pass judgment on any other person regardless of their actions or behavior.

With that in mind, let's just take a few minutes and do a quick review of those words of Christ and see what He's really saying. I've said many times previously that to properly study and understand something we need to see who's talking, who he's talking to, the situation causing the statement to be made and the general context of the conversation. Let's do just that here regarding this verse.

Of course, Christ is doing the talking here during His sermon on the mount which contains many great lessons besides this one. And keep in mind, this sermon is basically telling His listeners how Christians should relate to the world and those around them.

Starting in chapter 5 we find Jesus continually pointing out the difference in how Christians should conduct themselves as opposed to how the Pharisees acted. The reason for this comparison is because the Pharisees were the very epitome of a Hypocrite, i.e., They appeared religious but were really only "acting" as if they were. The Greek word *"hypocrite"* actually means *"actor."*

So, Jesus is talking and the disciples are the listeners, and the general context of His sermon is that Christians are to be morally, spiritually and in general conversation, on a higher level than the world about them. Especially those who profess to be religious.

And so, when He makes the statement "Judge not, that ye be not judged," what's He getting at? Is he talking about a magistrate type of judging? No. Is he talking about an act of judgement by the elders of a congregation? Again, No. Or is He perhaps talking about forming an opinion about something or someone? And again, the answer is – No.

More study of the Bible shows us that civil courts and civil rulers are approved by God and the best reference for this is the 13th chapter of Romans. And, of course, the church is to judge right from wrong and to take the appropriate action to remove wrong from its midst. And, as individuals, we have to judge right from wrong, don't we?

As an example, doesn't the 15th and 16th verses of Matthew 7 tell us to *"Beware of false prophets"* because they are not what they say they are. And that how we are to recognize them is *"by their fruits."* What they produce – their actions. It's a pretty simple equation here, isn't it? We're going to have to make some sort of judgment regarding them and then avoid following them.

What Jesus' statement regarding *"judgment"* means is: it's a warning to Christians to not be like the Pharisees, or any other hypocrite, in finding faults, or condemning others while thinking yourself to be perfect. In other words, don't go around with a "holier-than-thou" attitude which was very prevalent with the way the Pharisees acted.

Jesus is simply telling His listeners (and us) that they (we) will be judged *"as they (we) judge."* In other words, we will be judged by the same rules which we use to judge others. A good reference to this is found in Mark 4:24 where He tells His disciples to heed "*with what measure*