



## MAIN SCRIPTURES

- Romans 14:10-13
- Romans 2:1-3
- Proverbs 27:2
- Romans 12:9-10
- John 8:2-18

## SURRENDER MY FEELINGS

- Surrender Judgment
- To Judge without being Judgmental
- Practice Honor
- A Final Critical Lesson

## FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURES:

“Beloved, now we are children of God. **It is not yet revealed what we will be; but we know that when He is revealed, we will be like Him,** for we will see Him just as He is.” 1 John 3:2 WEBUS

“But you, **why do you judge your brother?** Or you again, **why do you despise your brother?** For **we will all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.** For it is written, “‘As I live,’ says the Lord, ‘to me every knee will bow. Every tongue will confess to God.’” So then **each one of us will give account of himself to God.** Therefore **let’s not judge one another any more, but judge this rather, that no man put a stumbling block in his brother’s way,** or an occasion for falling.” Romans 14:10-13 WEBUS

“Therefore you are without excuse, O man, **whoever you are who judge. For in that which you judge another, you condemn**

**yourself.** For **you who judge practice the same things.** We know that **the judgment of God is according to truth** against those who practice such things. Do you think this, **O man who judges those who practice such things,** and do the same, that you will escape the judgment of God?" Romans 2:1-3 WEBUS

**"Let another man praise you,** and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips." Proverbs 27:2 WEBUS

**"Let love be without hypocrisy.** Abhor that which is evil. Cling to that which is good. **In love of the brothers** be tenderly affectionate to one another; **in honor prefer one another,"** Romans 12:9-10 WEBUS

"But when they continued asking him, he looked up and said to them, **"He who is without sin among you, let him throw the first stone at her."**" John 8:7 WEBUS

## **INTRODUCTION:**

*Cease resistance; abandon control of your life entirely, and come into complete submission to God. That's what it means to surrender. When Y'shua returns, some of you will be like Him. And for that transformation to occur, it requires that you surrender your judgment of others and practice first honoring others instead.*

*Pray this without ceasing: "Yahweh, I confess that it is wrong to cast a predetermined negative personal opinion or conclusion*

*about someone using a prejudiced assessment or based on my own biased set of conditions. Help me no longer make automatic negative determinations, assumptions, or conclusions, or prematurely condemn, criticize, or discriminate. I recognize that prejudiced and biased judgment can additionally be displayed towards an institution or organization using the same negatively skewed standards. Today, I will give the respect due and offer special recognition to someone who is truly deserving of acknowledgment for a worthwhile achievement, the demonstration of godly character, holds a truly admirable position, or seeks a legitimately important ambition. I will begin with assuming the best of others and choose to be optimistic about people. I will appreciate, revere, and respect someone for what is positive about them. When I am tempted to judge someone improperly, even when they deserve rebuke, first I will find something in them that deserves praise, which should help moderate how I administer that judgment! I understand that honor can additionally be displayed towards institutions and organizations that collectively meet the same standards as an individual worthy of such acknowledgment.”*

*Whoever won't surrender their habit of instantly passing judgment on others, and instead make it a practice of first finding something in them to honor before they make a negative final determination, simply won't become like Him.*

SURRENDER THAT I DESERVE TO FEEL THIS WAY!

## 1. Surrender My Feelings

### A. Surrender Judgment

(1) **Introduction:** There are many things to contemplate as we dive into the rough waters of this topic.

(a) **Seven Complex Questions:** to help us navigate a sea of ideas about judgement, without having a catastrophic shipwreck.

1. What is sinful judgement of others and what does it mean to be judgmental?
2. What is the subtle, yet critical distinction between being judgmental and being discerning?
3. How does our responsibility to hold fellow Christians accountable for their sins differ from judging them for their transgressions?
4. How must we live as Christians in order to be in a position to point out the sins of others, and thus, what is the devastating effect of hypocrisy?
5. What does it mean to judge oneself; is that a healthy practice; and if so, how is that done properly?
6. How does our role as Christians differ depending on whether we are assessing the actions of outsiders or fellow believers?

7. In God's grand design, He makes the final judgment, so how must we navigate that reality on this side of eternity?

## **(2) What is sinful judgement of others and what does it mean to be judgmental?**

### **(a) Key Distinctions!**

1. "But you, **why do you judge your brother?** Or you again, **why do you despise your brother?** For **we will all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.** For it is written, "'As I live,' says the Lord, 'to me every knee will bow. Every tongue will confess to God.'" So then **each one of us will give account of himself to God.** Therefore **let's not judge one another any more, but judge this rather, that no man put a stumbling block in his brother's way,** or an occasion for falling."

Romans 14:10-13 WEBUS

- a) To be judgmental of someone is to detest or loathe them; it's a form of hate, and that of course is sin.
- b) You should first be concerned with how you live your own life for God, because He is watching and no man will escape being accountable to Him.
- c) God despises it if you cause someone to stumble; that's what's at risk when you are judgmental.

1) *“but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to stumble, it would be better for him if a huge millstone were hung around his neck and that he were sunk in the depths of the sea.”* Matthew 18:6 WEBUS

(b) If you desire to no longer be “judgmental” of *people, institutions, or organizations*, then surrender...

1. ...your predetermined negative personal opinions using prejudiced assessments.
2. ...your biased set of conditions and negatively skewed standards.
3. ...your automatic negative determinations, assumptions, and conclusions.
4. ...your premature condemnation, criticism, and discrimination.

### **(3) Surrender predetermined negative personal opinions using prejudiced assessments.**

(a) Do be judicious, just not pre-judicious!

1. “These also are sayings of the wise: **To show partiality in judgment is not good. He who says to the wicked, “You are righteous,”** peoples will curse him, and nations will abhor him— but **it will go well with those who convict the guilty**, and a rich

blessing will come on them.” Proverbs 24:23-25

WEBUS

- a) It is categorically wrong to jump to premature, prejudiced conclusions without investigation—to either indict the innocent or exonerate the guilty.
  - 1) “*He who **justifies the wicked, and he who condemns the righteous, both of them alike are an abomination to Yahweh.***” Pro. 17:15 WEBUS
- b) However, to refrain from showing partiality in judgment **does not mean** we should be timid in holding a brother accountable for sin. (We will explore this topic in greater detail later in this study), but for now...
  - 1) “***You shall not hate your brother** in your heart. **You shall surely rebuke** your neighbor, and not **\*bear sin** because of him.*” Lev. 19:17 WEBUS
    - a. \*make it easy for him to continue sinning by saying nothing about it or covering it over by, in a sense, taking it on yourself.
  - 2) “*let him know that **he who turns a sinner from the error of his way** will save a soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.*” James 5:20

WEBUS

**(4) Surrender using a biased set of conditions or negatively skewed standards.**

(a) Partiality and favoritism is antithetical to righteousness!

1. **“You shall do no injustice in judgment. You shall not be partial** to the poor, **nor show favoritism** to the great; but **you shall judge your neighbor in righteousness.**” Leviticus 19:15 WEBUS

a) The Holy Scriptures equate partiality and favoritism toward a person or persons to injustice.

b) And Yahweh is no respecter of persons!

1) *“**For Yahweh your God**, he is God of gods and Lord of Lords, the great God, the mighty, and the awesome, who **doesn’t respect persons** or take bribes.”* Deuteronomy 10:17 WEBUS

(b) Prejudice and Bias:

1. “Or do you despise the riches of his goodness, forbearance, and patience, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? But **according to your hardness and unrepentant heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath** in the day of wrath, revelation, and of **the righteous judgment of God**, who “will pay back to everyone according to their works: to those who by perseverance in well-

doing seek for glory, honor, and incorruptibility, eternal life; **but to those who are self-seeking and don't obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, will be** wrath, indignation, oppression, and anguish on every soul of man who does evil, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. But **glory, honor, and peace go to every man who does good**, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. **For there is no partiality with God.** For as many as have sinned without the law will also perish without the law. As many as have sinned under the law will be judged by the law." Romans 2:4-12

WEBUS

- a) There is no partiality with God... His **righteous judgment** accounts for each person's choices:
  - 1) The non-Christian's heart is hard and unrepentant. He is self-seeking and doesn't obey the truth but obeys unrighteousness. His soul always leads to evil practices. What he has in store in the day of judgement will be God's wrath and indignation, and he will experience oppression and anguish.
  - 2) However, the Christian inevitably perseveres in doing what is right in God's eyes and seeks to

glorify Him. His reward will be received in his incorruptible eternal life—and he will experience glory, honor, and peace.

**(5) Surrender making automatic negative determinations, assumptions, or conclusions.**

(a) Who are you who judge another's servant?

1. "Now **accept one who is weak in faith**, but not for disputes over opinions. One man has faith to eat all things, but he who is weak eats only vegetables. Don't let him who eats despise him who doesn't eat. **Don't let him who doesn't eat judge him who eats, for God has accepted him. Who are you who judge another's servant?** To his own Lord he stands or falls. Yes, he will be made to stand, for God has power to make him stand. **One man esteems one day as more important. Another esteems every day alike. Let each man be fully assured in his own mind.** He who observes the day, observes it to the Lord; and he who does not observe the day, to the Lord he does not observe it. **He who eats, eats to the Lord, for he gives God thanks. He who doesn't eat, to the Lord he doesn't eat,** and gives God thanks." Romans 14:1-7

WEBUS

- a) It appears here, in context, that the topics at hand at the start of Romans 14 are about food choices and the option to acknowledge certain special days. For our purposes today, we will omit the theology lesson about those topics and instead drill down to Paul’s overarching message—the admonition to stop being judgmental. (*You can study the theological details about this passage in another teaching...[Identity Politics](#)*)
  - 1) Paul analyzes the practices and choices of two types of Christians—the newer, immature believer (weaker in the faith), and the established, mature believer (strong in the faith).
- b) He actually contrasts the “strong in the faith” in Chapter 15—and identifies himself as such.
  - 1) “Now ***we who are strong*** ought to bear the weaknesses of the weak, and not to please ourselves.” Romans 15:1 WEBUS
- c) Nevertheless, the lesson here for every Christian—irrespective of maturity level—is to stop being so judgmental of one another—it’s ugly.
  - 1) The real takeaway is this—God will judge how we practice our faith.

- 2) These are NOT sin issues being debated here; instead, they are a matter of what level of understanding a believer has reached, and if someone newer in the faith has not yet comprehended some theological premise as of yet, don't judge them for it.
- 3) God is the one we are all accountable to, and it is to Him we owe our allegiance.
- d) God loves and accepts us at every level of maturity in the faith, and His first priority is to examine the conviction of our hearts.
  - 1) *“**For none of us lives to himself, and none dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord. Or if we die, we die to the Lord. If therefore we live or die, we are the Lord’s.** For to this end Christ died, rose, and lived again, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. {10} **But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you despise your brother?** For we will all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.”* Romans 14:7-10 WEBUS
- e) So, stop being so judgmental (it's like hatred and can frustrate and even cripple a brother's faith)—

remember, these are not sin issues we are taking about here.

- 1) ***“So then each one of us will give account of himself to God. Therefore let’s not judge one another any more, but judge this rather, that no man put a stumbling block in his brother’s way, or an occasion for falling.”*** Romans 14:12-13

WEBUS

**(6) Surrender the propensity to prematurely condemn, criticize, or discriminate.**

(a) It can be very tempting to pre-judge!

1. **“My brothers, don’t hold the faith of our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with partiality.** For if a man with a gold ring, in fine clothing, comes into your synagogue, and a poor man in filthy clothing also comes in, and you pay special attention to him who wears the fine clothing and say, “Sit here in a good place;” and you tell the poor man, “Stand there,” or “Sit by my footstool” **haven’t you shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?** Listen, my beloved brothers. **Didn’t God choose those who are poor in this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the Kingdom** which he promised

to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor man. Don't the rich oppress you and personally drag you before the courts? Don't they blaspheme the honorable name by which you are called? However, if you fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, **"You shall love your neighbor as yourself,"** you do well. **But if you show partiality, you commit sin, being convicted by the law as transgressors."** James 2:1-9 WEBUS

- a) If you show partiality, you are committing a sin, and you will be convicted by the law as a transgressor!
  - 1) It cannot be overstated, regardless of the subject—in this case favoring the rich over the poor—the main thing is ALWAYS the main thing!
  - 2) **Love comes first!** *"Owe no one anything, except to **love one another**; for he who loves his neighbor **has fulfilled the law.**"* Romans 13:8

WEBUS

- b) For clarity—there will be a time for final judgment!
  - 1) ***"Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the***

*counsels of the hearts. Then each man will get his praise from God.” 1 Corinthians 4:5 WEBUS*

3. And for the Christian, judgment is NEVER unto condemnation.

1) ***“There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who don’t walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.”*** Romans 8:1 WEBUS

**(7) Prejudice and bias can additionally be displayed towards an institution or organization using the same negatively skewed standards.**

(a) Higher authorities ordained by God!

1. **“Let every soul be in subjection to the higher authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and those who exist are ordained by God.**

Therefore he who resists the authority withstands the ordinance of God; and those who withstand will receive to themselves judgment. For **rulers are not a terror to the good work, but to the evil.** Do you desire to have no fear of the authority? Do that which is good, and you will have praise from the authority, **for he is a servant of God to you for good.** But if you do that which is evil, be afraid, for he doesn’t bear

the sword in vain; for **he is a servant of God, an avenger for wrath to him who does evil.** Therefore you need to be in subjection, not only because of the wrath, but also for conscience' sake." Romans 13:1-5  
WEBUS

- a) The takeaway here is that God has ordained an authority structure, so it is a bad idea to resist that authority because of prejudice or bias.
  - 1) You can study a complete theological teaching on Romans 13:1-7 in [If You Ass-u-me](#)

## **B. To Judge without being Judgmental!**

### **(1) What is the subtle, yet critical distinction between being judgmental and being discerning?**

- (a) ...that you may approve the things that are excellent!
  - 1. "This I pray, **that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve the things that are excellent,** that you may be sincere and without offense to the day of Christ, being **filled with the fruits of righteousness** which are through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God." Philippians 1:9-11 WEBUS

- a) To be discerning about that which is acceptable behavior for a fellow Christian and to hold them accountable is a sign of love.
- b) A dear friend (Jay Etzel) says, *“Discernment is the healthy expression of God-given critical analysis.”*
- c) Discernment is actually a fruit of righteousness, as opposed to partiality and favoritism, which are antithetical to righteousness!

1) *“You shall do no injustice in judgment. You shall not be partial..., nor show favoritism... but **you shall judge your neighbor in righteousness.**”*

Leviticus 19:15

(b) Call out for discernment...

1. “My son, if you will receive my words, and store up my commandments within you, so as to turn your ear to wisdom, **and apply your heart to understanding; yes, if you call out for discernment,** and lift up your voice for understanding; if you seek her as silver, and search for her as for hidden treasures; then you will **understand the fear of Yahweh,** and **find the knowledge of God.** For **Yahweh gives wisdom.** Out of his mouth comes knowledge and understanding. **He lays up sound wisdom for the upright.** He is a shield

**to those who walk in integrity, that he may guard the paths of justice, and preserve the way of his saints. Then you will understand righteousness and justice, equity and every good path. For wisdom will enter into your heart. Knowledge will be pleasant to your soul. Discretion will watch over you. Understanding will keep you,”** Proverbs 2:1-11 WEBUS

- a) Discretion will watch over you and understanding will keep you...
  - 1) ...if you seek discernment.
  - 2) ...if you understand the fear of Yahweh.
  - 3) ...if you search for the knowledge of God.
- b) Then Yahweh will...
  - 1) ...give you wisdom for being upright.
  - 2) ...shield you for walking in integrity.
  - 3) ...guard your paths of justice.
- c) Then you will...
  - 1) ...understand righteousness, justice, equity and go in the right direction.
- d) Because...
  - 1) ...wisdom will enter into your heart.
  - 2) ...knowledge will be pleasant to your soul.
- e) Remember: To be discerning is a sign of love!

- 1) ***Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all wrongs. Wisdom is found on the lips of him who has discernment, but a rod is for the back of him who is void of understanding.*** Proverbs 10:12-13 WEBUS

**(2) How does our responsibility to hold fellow Christians accountable for their sins differ from judging them for their transgressions?**

- (a) To avoid judging DOES NOT mean ignoring, overlooking, or turning a blind eye to sin.
  1. **““You shall do no injustice in judgment. You shall not be partial to the poor, nor show favoritism to the great; but you shall judge your neighbor in righteousness. ““You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people. ““You shall not endanger the life of your neighbor. I am Yahweh. ““You shall not hate your brother in your heart. You shall surely rebuke your neighbor, and not bear sin because of him. ““You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people; but you shall love your neighbor as yourself. I am Yahweh.”** Leviticus 19:15-18 WEBUS

- a) It's worth repeating first... injustice in judgment is being partial or showing favoritism.
- b) If you AVOID doing that, then judging others in righteousness is not only acceptable, but expected.
  - 1) *“He who says to the wicked, “You are righteous,” peoples will curse him, and nations will abhor him— but **it will go well with those who convict the guilty**, and a rich blessing will come on them.”* Proverbs 24:24-25 WEBUS
- c) It does not help your fellow Christian if you ignore their sinful behavior—that is not any different than endangering their life or hating them.
- d) **When you love someone**, you will make them aware of their sin and rebuke them as necessary.
- e) Again, to refrain from showing partiality in judgment **does not mean** to be timid in holding a brother accountable for sin.
- f) To bear sin means to make it easy for someone to continue sinning by saying nothing about it or covering it over by taking it on yourself.

- 1) “...**he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.**” James 5:20
- g) What covers a multitude of sins is LOVE!
  - 1) “*And above all things be earnest in your love among yourselves, for **love covers a multitude of sins.***” 1 Peter 4:8 WEBUS
- h) How do you love your neighbor as yourself? If he is sinning, you turn him from the error of his way.
  - 1) “*Brothers, **if any among you wanders from the truth and someone turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.***” James 5:19-20  
WEBUS

**(3) How must we live as Christians in order to be in a position to point out the sins of others, and thus, what is the devastating effect of hypocrisy?**

- (a) If you wish to be in a position to judge... first, don't be a hypocrite! (We already elaborated on Romans 2:4-12; this is the hypocrisy portion of that area of Scripture!)
  1. “Therefore you are without excuse, O man, **whoever you are who judge. For in that which you judge**

**another, you condemn yourself. For you who judge practice the same things.** We know that **the judgment of God is according to truth** against those who practice such things. Do you think this, **O man who judges those who practice such things,** and do the same, that you will escape the judgment of God?"

Romans 2:1-3 WEBUS

a) Participating in the very behavior that your Christian faith dictates is wrong, or that you intend to convict others of, is the height of hypocrisy.

1) ***“Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor that which is evil. Cling to that which is good. In love of the brothers be tenderly affectionate to one another; in honor prefer one another,”*** Romans

12:9-10 WEBUS

(b) Hypocritical behavior as such is disgusting and is devastating to your witness; it instantly disqualifies you from pointing out the sins of others!

1. “For though I was free from all, I brought myself under bondage to all, that I might gain the more. To the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain those who are under the law; to those

who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those who are without law. To the weak I became as weak, that I might gain the weak. **I have become all things to all men, that I may by all means save some. Now I do this for the sake of the Good News,** that I may be a joint partaker of it. Don't you know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run like that, so that you may win. Every man who strives in the games exercises self-control in all things. Now they do it to receive a corruptible crown, but we an incorruptible. I therefore run like that, not aimlessly. I fight like that, not beating the air, **but I beat my body and bring it into submission, lest by any means, after I have preached to others, I myself should be disqualified."**

1 Corinthians 9:19-27 WEBUS

- a) Avoid Disqualification
  - 1) Paul was willing to do anything necessary to live with pure integrity, so anyone looking on would see the life and light of the Gospel in him.
  - 2) His intention was to live a life 100% dedicated to his witness, without any wasted effort.

- 3) He worked tirelessly to live a completely submitted and obedient life, so that he would not be disqualified from preaching to others!
  - 4) What about you? Are you in a position to judge?
- b) Only when your obedience is complete! Capture your every thought and submit it to the Lord, so you don't get disqualified!

1) *“For though we walk in the flesh, we don't wage war according to the flesh; for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but mighty before God to the throwing down of strongholds, throwing down imaginations and every high thing that is exalted against the knowledge of God and **bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being in readiness to avenge all disobedience when your obedience is made full.**” 2*

Corinthians 10:3-6 WEBUS

(c) With this in mind, what type of person ought you be?

1. “Therefore, since all these things will be destroyed like this, **what kind of people ought you to be in holy living and godliness,**” 2 Peter 3:11 WEBUS

- a) Walk worthily of your calling: be humble, patient, loving, unified, and peaceful.
  - 1) *“I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to **walk worthily of the calling with which you were called**, with all lowliness and humility, with patience, **bearing with one another in love**, being eager to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”* Ephesians 4:1-3 WEBUS
- b) Be an excellent example: in your teachings, integrity, priorities, purity, and words, such that anyone who attempts to condemn or accuse you will be ashamed.
  - 1) *“**In all things show yourself an example of good works**. In your teaching, show integrity, seriousness, incorruptibility, and soundness of speech **that can’t be condemned**, that he who opposes you may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say about us.”* Titus 2:7-8 WEBUS
- c) Exemplary behavior even among pagans, so your witness, as they examine you, points them to God!
  - 1) *“Beloved, I beg you as foreigners and pilgrims to abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, **having good behavior among the nations**,*

*so in that of which they speak against you as evildoers, **they may see your good works and glorify God** in the day of visitation.”* 1 Peter 2:11-12 WEBUS

(d) Become Qualified (not Disqualified)...

1. “**Judgment** will again be **founded on righteousness**, and all the upright in heart will follow it.” Psalms 94:15 NIV
2. “for **justice will return to the righteous**, and all the upright in heart will follow it.” Psalm 94:15 ESV
  - a) In other words, “The administration of justice and the position to judge will be restored to those who will do so in alignment with God’s righteousness—what right, fair, and good; and honest people will agree with their rulings.”
    - 1) “*For this is the will of God, **that by well-doing** you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish men. **Live as free people**, yet not using your freedom for a cloak of wickedness, but as **bondservants of God.**”* 1 Peter 2:15-16 WEBUS
    - b) When your life is a living example of Christ, you will be ready to judge the world. “*Don’t you know that the saints will judge the world?...*” 1 Cor. 6:2

- 1) *“Yes, and **you will be brought before governors and kings** for my sake, **for a testimony to them and to the nations.** But when they deliver you up, don’t be anxious how or what you will say, for it will be given you in that hour what you will say. For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.”* Matthew 10:18-20 WEBUS

**(4) What does it mean to judge oneself; is that a healthy practice; and if so, how is that done properly?**

- (a) Let each man examine his own work...
  1. **“Brothers, even if a man is caught in some fault, you who are spiritual must restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness,** looking to yourself so that you also aren’t tempted. Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. **For if a man thinks himself to be something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. But let each man examine his own work,** and then he will have reason to boast in himself, and not in someone else. For each man will bear his own burden.” Galatians 6:1-5 WEBUS
- a) If you have any chance of being of use to turn someone from their sinful ways, you must first

examine yourself. So yes, it is not only a healthy process but a necessary one.

- b) The secret is to do a sober self-assessment, in the context of God's grace, mercy, and never-ending forgiveness, with NO self-condemnation.
- c) Let God convict you, but remember... *"There is no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who don't walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit."* Romans 8:1

(b) In other words, to qualify to judge others, you must first judge yourself!

1. **"Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but don't consider the beam that is in your own eye?** Or how will you tell your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye,' and behold, the beam is in your own eye? You **hypocrite!** **First remove the beam out of your own eye,** and then you can see clearly to remove the speck out of your brother's eye." Matthew 7:3-5 WEBUS

a) And be careful!

- 1) ***"Don't judge, so that you won't be judged. For with whatever judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with whatever measure you***

*measure, it will be measured to you.” Matthew 7:1-2 WEBUS*

b) We were also warned not to even participate in receiving the body and blood of Christ (in communion) without first a self-examination!

1) *“Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks the Lord’s cup in a way unworthy of the Lord will be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord. **But let a man examine himself,** and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. **For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy way eats and drinks judgment to himself if he doesn’t discern the Lord’s body.** For this cause many among you are weak and sickly, and not a few sleep. For if we discerned ourselves, we wouldn’t be judged. But when we are judged, we are disciplined by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world.” 1 Corinthians 11:27-32 WEBUS*

**(5) How does our role as Christians differ depending on whether we are assessing the actions of outsiders or fellow believers?**

(a) Presently: Judging fellow Christians...? Yes! Judging outsiders? No!

1. "I wrote to you in my letter to **have no company with** sexual sinners; yet not at all meaning with the sexual sinners of this world, or with the covetous and extortionists, or with idolaters, for then you would have to leave the world. But as it is, I wrote to you **not to associate with anyone who is called a brother** who is a sexual sinner, or covetous, or an idolater, or a slanderer, or a drunkard, or an extortionist. **Don't even** eat with such a person. {12} **For what do I have to do with also judging those who are outside? Don't you judge those who are within? {13} But those who are outside, God judges.** "Put away the wicked man from among yourselves."" 1 Corinthians 5:9-13

#### WEBUS

- a) When it comes to judging, there are some very specific instructions!
  - 1) **Exclude** judging people of the world, otherwise you wouldn't even be able to leave your house!  
*"Those who are outside, God judges."*
  - 2) **Include** judging brothers in the faith.
- b) Judging fellow Christians... *"Don't you judge those who are within?"*

- 1) Do not associate with a sexual sinners, covetous people, idolaters, slanderers, drunkards, or extortionists. Don't even eat with such people.
  - 2) Remove wicked people from among yourselves.
- (b) However, you will eventually judge the world!

1. "Dare any of you, having a matter against his neighbor, go to law before the unrighteous, and not before the saints? **Don't you know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters?** Don't you know that we will judge angels? **How much more, things that pertain to this life? If then you have to judge things pertaining to this life, do you set them to judge who are of no account in the assembly?"** 1 Corinthians 6:1-4 WEBUS

a) A time will come when the church will be the administrators of the law of the land...and will institute justice to the world. *"**Judgment** will again be **founded on righteousness [justice will return to the righteous]**, and all the upright in heart will follow it."* Psalms 94:15

- 1) But for now, the admonition is that you do not subject yourself to being judged by the world.

- 2) We should easily be able to arbitrate disputes among ourselves (within the Body of Christ).
- b) We should not subject each other to the legal proceedings of the pagan world when dealing with other Christians.

- 1) *“I say this to move you to shame. **Isn’t there even one wise man among you who would be able to decide between his brothers? But brother goes to law with brother, and that before unbelievers!** Therefore it is already altogether a defect in you that you have lawsuits one with another. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be defrauded? No, but you yourselves do wrong and defraud, and that against your brothers.”* 1 Corinthians 6:5-8

WEBUS

(c) But, when it comes to warning fellow Christians...

- a) ...it is not only acceptable, but expected.

- 1) *“Or don’t you know that the unrighteous will not inherit God’s Kingdom? **Don’t be deceived. Neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor male prostitutes, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor***

*drunkards, nor slanderers, nor extortionists, will inherit God's Kingdom.*" 1 Corinthians 6:9-10

WEBUS

**(6) In God's grand design, He makes the final judgment, so how must we navigate that reality on this side of eternity?**

(a) The righteous judgment of God!

1. "Beloved, don't **be astonished at the fiery trial which has come upon you to test you**, as though a strange thing happened to you. But because you are partakers of Christ's sufferings, rejoice, that at the revelation of his glory you also may rejoice with exceeding joy. **If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed**, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. On their part he is blasphemed, but on your part he is glorified. **But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or a thief, or an evil doer, or a meddler in other men's matters.** But if one of you suffers for being a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God in this matter. {17} **For the time has come for judgment to begin with the household of God. If it begins first with us, what will happen to those who don't obey the Good News of God?** "If it is hard for the righteous to be saved,

what will happen to the ungodly and the sinner?"

**Therefore let them also who suffer according to the will of God in doing good entrust their souls to him, as to a faithful Creator."** 1 Peter 4:12-19 WEBUS

- a) God's judgment will come first to His children.
- b) If you are suffering for Christ's sake—then rejoice.
- c) If you are suffering because of your chronic sin—then you ought to be ashamed of yourself.

1) *"But according to your hardness and unrepentant heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath, revelation, and of **the righteous judgment of God,**"*

Romans 2:5 WEBUS

(b) ...so how must we navigate on this side of eternity?

What kind of people ought you to be?

1. **"Therefore, since all these things will be destroyed like this, what kind of people ought you to be in holy living and godliness, looking for and earnestly desiring the coming of the day of God,** which will cause the burning heavens to be dissolved, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? But, according to his promise, we look for new heavens and a new

earth, in which righteousness dwells.” 2 Peter  
3:11-13 WEBUS

- a) Holy Living
  - 1) A life completely set-apart for God!
- b) Godliness
  - 1) Every part of your life: spirit, soul, and body, submitted to God’s will and dedicated to pleasing Him!

### **C. Practice Honor**

#### **(1) Introduction: Give honor where honor is due!**

- (a) The respect due and special recognition of someone who is truly deserving of acknowledgment for...
  - 1. A worthwhile achievement.
  - 2. The demonstration of godly character.
  - 3. Holding a truly admirable position.
  - 4. Seeking a legitimately important ambition.
- (b) Begin with assuming the best of others....
  - 1. Be optimistic about people.
  - 2. Appreciate, revere, and respect someone for what is positive about them.
  - 3. When you are tempted to judge someone improperly, even when they deserve rebuke, first find something in them that deserves praise!

- (c) Honor can additionally be displayed towards institutions and organizations that collectively meet the same standards as an individual worthy of such

**(2) The respect due and special recognition of someone who is truly deserving of acknowledgment...**

- (a) Respect and recognition for worthwhile achievements...

- 1. **“Let another man praise you,** and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips.” Proverbs 27:2 WEBUS

- a) Freely praise others for what is worthy of praise (in God’s economy).

- b) And if you are the one deserving of praise, stay silent and let others recognize you!

- (b) Respect and recognition for the demonstration of godly character...

- 1. “But say the things which fit sound doctrine, that older men should be **temperate, sensible, sober minded, sound in faith, in love, and in perseverance,** and that **older women likewise be reverent in behavior, not slanderers nor enslaved to much wine, teachers of that which is good,** that they may train the young wives to love their husbands, to love their children, to be sober minded, chaste, workers at

home, kind, being in subjection to their own husbands, that God's word may not be blasphemed. Likewise, **exhort the younger men to be sober minded. In all things show yourself an example of good works. In your teaching, show integrity, seriousness, incorruptibility, and soundness of speech** that can't be condemned, that he who opposes you may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say about us." Titus 2:1-8 WEBUS

- a) Character assessment: This is good doctrine!
  - 1) **Older men:** self-restrained, practical, sober-minded, faithful, loving, and persistent.
  - 2) **Older women:** reverent, honoring, sober, teachers of virtue, trainers of young wives.
  - 3) **Younger men:** sober-minded, a witness of obedience, and a teacher with integrity, intellect, depth, who is uncompromising and uses carefully chosen words.

(c) Respect and recognition for holding a truly admirable position...

- 1. **"Let every soul be in subjection to the higher authorities,** for there is no authority except from God, and those who exist are ordained by God.

Therefore he who resists the authority withstands the ordinance of God; and those who withstand will receive to themselves judgment. For rulers are not a terror to the good work, but to the evil. Do you desire to have no fear of the authority? Do that which is good, and you will have praise from the authority, **for he is a servant of God to you for good.** But if you do that which is evil, be afraid, for he doesn't bear the sword in vain; **for he is a servant of God, an avenger for wrath to him who does evil. Therefore you need to be in subjection,** not only because of the wrath, but also for conscience' sake." Romans 13:1-5

#### WEBUS

- a) How can you recognize a position of authority ordained by God.
  - 1) Rules using God's standards as the benchmark.
  - 2) Comes against what is evil.
  - 3) Is an outspoken servant and witness for God.
- (d) Respect and recognition for seeking legitimately important ambitions...
  - 1. **"Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and in teaching.** For the Scripture says, "You

shall not muzzle the ox when it treads out the grain.”

And, **“The laborer is worthy of his wages.” Don’t receive an accusation against an elder except at the word of two or three witnesses. Those who sin,**

**reprove in the sight of all, that the rest also may be**

**in fear.** I command you in the sight of God, and the

Lord Jesus Christ, and the chosen angels, that you

observe these things without prejudice, doing nothing

by partiality.” 1 Timothy 5:17-21 WEBUS

a) Ambition can either choke your witness or be your witness—it all depends on what you aspire to.

1) Elders of the Church, who rule well (as outlined above) are worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the Word and in teaching.

2) “The laborer is worthy of his wages.”

3) You should acknowledge this without prejudice, and do so without partiality.

(e) Honor that is due to elders who are elderly...

1. **“You shall rise up before the gray head and honor the face of the elderly;** and you shall fear your God. I am Yahweh.” Leviticus 19:32 WEBUS

a) An elder who is elderly and who has a testimony of righteous living over many years is the most

worthy of honor, and is due the greatest of respect and recognition.

- 1) “**Gray hair** is a crown of glory. **It is attained by a life of righteousness.**” Proverbs 16:31 WEBUS

### **(3) Begin with assuming the best of others.**

(a) Be optimistic about people.

1. “**Don’t let kindness and truth forsake you.** Bind them around your neck. Write them on the tablet of your heart. So you **will find favor, and good understanding in the sight of God and man.**” Proverbs 3:3-4 WEBUS

a) Reputation matters!

- 1) If you are to be in a position to evaluate and give your godly input about the choices and activities of others, you must have a reputation of being both tenderhearted and fair.
- 2) You should be known as being friendly, approachable, and considerate, while at the same time being tenacious for God’s truth.
- 3) That is how you will become a person who God can trust in a position to speak into the lives of others and who can be trusted by the members of your community.

b) Note: you wear your reputation like an outer garment!

1) *“Put on therefore, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, lowliness, humility, and perseverance;”*

Colossians 3:12 WEBUS

(b) Appreciate, revere, and respect someone for what is positive about them.

1. “Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor that which is evil. Cling to that which is good. **In love of the brothers be tenderly affectionate to one another; in honor prefer one another**, not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord, rejoicing in hope, enduring in troubles, continuing steadfastly in prayer, contributing to the needs of the saints, and given to hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless, and don’t curse.” Romans 12:9-14 WEBUS

a) Always Others First

1) Your love only becomes real when others experience it—otherwise it’s just a word!

2) *“Owe no one anything, except to **love one another**; for he who loves his neighbor **has fulfilled the law.**”* Romans 13:8 WEBUS

- b) How will others experience your love?
    - 1) In addition to witnessing in you a plethora of godly character traits, above all they will know your love by how you contribute to meeting THEIR NEEDS!
    - 2) Your love is an action that should be experienced even by those who harm you!
  - c) Again—always others first!
    - 1) *“doing nothing through rivalry or through conceit, but **in humility, each counting others better than himself; each of you not just looking to his own things, but each of you also to the things of others.**”* Philippians 2:3-4
- WEBUS

**(4) When you are tempted to judge someone improperly, even when they deserve rebuke, first find something in them that deserves praise.**

- (a) Recognizing anything good in a person will help moderate how you administer judgment!
    - 1. **“Therefore exhort one another, and **build each other up,** even as you also do.”** 1 Thessalonians 5:11
- WEBUS

- a) We are called to build one another up, not tear one another down!
  - b) The most powerful and effective way to build up a brother is with your words—words have the potential to impart life and God’s grace!
    - 1) ***“Let no corrupt speech proceed out of your mouth, but only what is good for building others up as the need may be, that it may give grace to those who hear.”*** Ephesians 4:29 WEBUS
  - c) And words also have the potential to impart death!
    - 1) ***“Death and life are in the power of the tongue; those who love it will eat its fruit.”*** Proverbs 18:21 WEBUS
- (b) Slow down before you say something you will regret!
- 1. ***“There is one who speaks rashly*** like the piercing of a sword, but ***the tongue of the wise heals.”*** Proverbs 12:18 WEBUS
    - a) The curses you impart when you “speak rashly” will come back to haunt you!
      - 1) ***“But I tell you that everyone who is angry with his brother without a cause will be in danger of the judgment. Whoever says to his brother, ‘Raca!’ will be in danger of the council.***

***Whoever says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of Gehenna.***” Matthew 5:22 WEBUS

(c) A wise man has strict control over what precedes forth from his lips!

1. **“The heart of the wise instructs his mouth,** and adds learning to his lips. **Pleasant words** are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.” Proverbs 16:23-24 WEBUS

a) Like the mothers of the world have declared in every generation: *“If you have nothing nice to say, say nothing at all.”*

1) ***“One who despises his neighbor is void of wisdom, but a man of understanding holds his peace.”*** Proverbs 11:12 WEBUS

**(5) Honor can be displayed towards institutions and organizations that collectively meet the same standards as an individual worthy of such acknowledgment.**

(a) Give honor to whom honor is due...

1. **“Let every soul be in subjection to the higher authorities,** for there is **no authority except from God,** and those who exist are **ordained by God.** Therefore he who resists the authority withstands the ordinance of God; and those who withstand will

receive to themselves judgment.” Romans 13:1-2

WEBUS

- a) Honor all higher governing authorities, even institutional ones, who are ordained by God to be in a rulership position.

- 1) *“Therefore **subject yourselves to** every ordinance of man **for the Lord’s sake: whether to the king, as supreme, or to governors, as sent by him for vengeance on evildoers and for praise to those who do well.**”* 1 Peter 2:13-14

WEBUS

- b) Support those individuals and institutions financially; regard the authoritative structure, and esteem the rules.

- 1) *“Therefore give everyone what you owe: if you owe taxes, pay taxes; if customs, then customs; **if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.**”*

Romans 13:7 WEBUS

## **D. A Final Critical Lesson**

### **(1) A Final Object Lesson on Judging**

- (a) First, consider the words of Y’shua that we explored earlier in this study!

1. **“Don’t judge, so that you won’t be judged.** For with whatever judgment you judge, you will be judged; and **with whatever measure you measure,** it will be measured to you.” Matthew 7:1-2 WEBUS
- (b) Now, apply His words of warning to the following accusation and judgement!
  1. “Now very early in the morning, he came again into the temple, and all the people came to him. He sat down and taught them. **The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman taken in adultery.** Having set her in the middle, they told him, **“Teacher, we found this woman in adultery, in the very act. Now in our law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. What then do you say about her?”** They said this testing him, **that they might have something to accuse him of.** But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with his finger. But when they continued asking him, he looked up and said to them, **“He who is without sin among you, let him throw the first stone at her.”** Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground with his finger. They, **when they heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one,** beginning from the oldest, even to the last. **Jesus was**

**left alone with the woman** where she was, in the middle. Jesus, standing up, saw her and said, **“Woman, where are your accusers? Did no one condemn you?”** She said, “No one, Lord.” Jesus said, **“Neither do I condemn you. Go your way. From now on, sin no more.”**” John 8:2-11 WEBUS

a) Critical Considerations

- 1) It has been taught historically that Jesus, in His mercy, forgave this adulteress woman. **Yes?**
- 2) And that Jesus chose to override the law, because the law says this woman should be stoned and Jesus is above the law or has abolished the law, and thus we no longer need to abide by the law as Christians. **Yes?**
- 3) And thus, this account is an object lesson to prove that Jesus did not abide by the law! **Yes?**
- 4) Sadly, each of those considerations is **perfectly incorrect!**

b) ***“We found this woman in adultery, in the very act. In the law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. What then do you say about her?”***

- 1) The law actually commands that both the man and the woman found in adultery be punished together.
- 2) *“If a man is found lying with a woman married to a husband, then **they shall both** die, the man who lay with the woman and the woman. So you shall remove the evil from Israel.”*  
Deuteronomy 22:22 WEBUS

### 3) **Where is the man?**

- c) *“**He who is without sin**, let him throw the first stone... when they heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one.”*
  - 1) The law actually commands that there be at least two witnesses to establish a fact.
  - 2) *“One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin that he sins. **At the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall a matter be established.**”*  
Deuteronomy 19:15 WEBUS

### 3) **Where are the witnesses?**

- d) *“Jesus was **left alone** with the woman. He said, “Woman, where are your accusers? **Did no one condemn you?**” She said, “**No one, Lord.**” Jesus*

said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go your way.  
From now on, **sin no more.**"

1) There is no man and there are no witnesses...

2) **Is she an adulteress. No!**

e) More Considerations:

1) Might she be an adulteress? **Yes!**

2) Has it been proven she is an adulteress? **No!**

3) Is she a sinner anyway? **Yes!**

4) Does she (do we) need forgiveness? **Yes!**

5) "for **all have sinned**, and fall short of the glory of God;" Romans 3:23 WEBUS

f) Another Consideration:

1) Does Jesus have the authority to forgive sins?  
**Yes!**

2) "But that you may know that **the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins**"—he said to the paralytic— "I tell you, arise, take up your mat, and go to your house." Mark 2:10-11  
WEBUS

g) Frightening Consideration:

1) "when they heard it..." Heard what? "He who is without sin, let him throw the first stone."

- 2) They were, *“convicted by their conscience, went out one by one.”*
- 3) The law commands that a person exposed as a false witness will receive the punishment that they hoped the person they accused would receive—**in this case, they would be stoned.**
- 4) *“and the judges shall make diligent inquisition; and behold, **if the witness is a false witness, and has testified falsely** against his brother, then **you shall do to him as he had thought to do to his brother.** So you shall remove the evil from among you. Those who remain shall hear, and fear, and will never again commit any such evil among you.”* Deuteronomy 19:18-20 WEBUS
- 5) Is it any wonder why these judgmental hypocrites disbanded so quickly once they were challenged with—*“He who is without sin among you, let him cast the first stone.”*?
- h) Jeremiah prophesied that those who were separated from Yahweh would have their names written in the earth.
  - 1) *“Yahweh, the hope of Israel, all who forsake you will be disappointed. **Those who depart from***

*me will be written in the earth, because they have forsaken Yahweh, the spring of living waters.”* Jeremiah 17:13 WEBUS

- 2) Could it be that both times, “*Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with his finger,*” that He was writing the names of those hypocritical scribes and the Pharisees?

(c) A Righteous Nonjudgmental Judge

1. “Again, therefore, Jesus spoke to them, saying, **“I am the light of the world. He who follows me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the light of life.”**

The Pharisees therefore said to him, “You testify about yourself. **Your testimony is not valid.”** Jesus answered them, **“Even if I testify about myself, my testimony is true,** for I know where I came from, and where I am going; but you don’t know where I came from, or where I am going. **You judge according to the flesh. I judge no one. Even if I do judge, my judgment is true, for I am not alone, but I am with the Father who sent me. It’s also written in your law that the testimony of two people is valid. I am one who testifies about myself, and the Father who sent me testifies about me.”**” John 8:12-18 WEBUS

- a) If anyone was in position to judge this woman accused of adultery—it was Y’shua.
- b) And He used His righteous judgement to do so!
- c) We too are called to become righteous judges, and to do so we must become just like Him!
  - 1) *“Beloved, now we are children of God. **It is not yet revealed what we will be; but we know that when He is revealed, we will be like Him, for we will see Him just as He is.**”* 1 John 3:2

WEBUS

- d) Does Jesus have the authority to forgive sins? **Yes!**
- e) Should we be able to do the same? **Yes!**
  - 1) *“**If you forgive anyone’s sins, they have been forgiven them. If you retain anyone’s sins, they have been retained.**”* John 20:23 WEBUS

## **(2) Review of the Seven Complex Questions**

- (a) These questions helped us navigate a sea of ideas about judgment, to AVOID a catastrophic shipwreck.
  - 1. What is judgement and what does it mean to be judgmental?
  - 2. What is the subtle, yet critical distinction between being judgmental and being discerning?

3. How does our responsibility to hold fellow Christians accountable for their sins differ from judging them for their transgressions?
4. How must we live as Christians in order to be in a position to point out the sins of others, and thus, what is the devastating effect of hypocrisy?
5. What does it mean to judge oneself; is that a healthy practice; and if so, how is that done properly?
6. How does our role as Christians differ depending on whether we are assessing the actions of outsiders or fellow believers?
7. In God's grand design, He makes the final judgment, so how must we navigate that reality on this side of eternity?

**Prayer: I SURRENDER MY JUDGMENT *(Father, I confess that it is wrong to cast a predetermined negative personal opinion or conclusion about someone using a prejudiced assessment or based on the my own biased set of conditions. Help me no longer make automatic negative determinations, assumptions, or conclusions, or prematurely condemn, criticize, or discriminate. I recognize that prejudiced and biased judgment can additionally be displayed towards an institution or organization using the same negatively***

*skewed standards.) I WILL PRACTICE HONOR (Today, I will give the respect due and offer special recognition to someone who is truly deserving of acknowledgment for a worthwhile achievement, the demonstration of godly character, holds a truly admirable position, or seeks a legitimately important ambition. I will begin with assuming the best of others and choose to be optimistic about people. I will appreciate, revere, and respect someone for what is positive about them. When I feel tempted to judge someone improperly, even when they deserve rebuke, I will first find something in them that deserves praise, which should help moderate how I administer that judgment! I understand that honor can additionally be displayed towards institutions and organizations that collectively meet the same standards as an individual worthy of such acknowledgment.)*

## ASSIGNMENT #18

### 1. Pray about and meditate on these Scriptures:

- A. “For **the word of God** is living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and **is able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart. There is no creature that is hidden from his sight, but *all things are***

*naked and laid open before the eyes of him to whom we must give an account.*" Hebrews 4:12-13 WEBUS

B. "But there is **nothing covered up that will not be revealed**, nor hidden that will not be known." Luke 12:2 WEBUS

C. "For **God will bring every work into judgment, with every hidden thing, whether it is good, or whether it is evil.**" Ecclesiastes 12:14 WEBUS

D. "For **no one can lay any other foundation than that which has been laid, which is Jesus Christ.** But if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay, or straw, **each man's work will be revealed. For the Day will declare it, because it is revealed in fire;** and the fire itself will test what sort of work each man's work is." 1 Corinthians 3:11-13 WEBUS

E. "For the time has come for **judgment** to begin with the household of God. If it **begins first with us**, what will happen to those who don't obey the Good News of God?" 1 Peter 4:17 WEBUS

2. **Surrender Judgement:** "Therefore you are without excuse, O man, whoever you are who judge. **For in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself. For you who judge practice the same things.**" Romans 2:1

A. Search your heart humbly and honestly.

- 1) Do you confess that it is wrong to cast a predetermined negative personal opinion or conclusion about someone using a prejudiced assessment or based on the your own biased set of conditions.?
  - 2) Do you agree to no longer make automatic negative determinations, assumptions, or conclusions, or prematurely condemn, criticize, or discriminate?
  - 3) Do you recognize that prejudiced and biased judgment can additionally be displayed towards an institution or organization using the same negatively skewed standards?
  - 4) Please review your answer to each question and explain your strategy to address it.
  - 5) Who will hold you accountable to surrender your anger?
3. **Practice Honor:** *“Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips.”* Proverbs 27:2
- A. Are you prepared to experience peace that surpasses human understanding?
- 1) Are you ready to give the respect due and offer special recognition to someone who is truly deserving of acknowledgment for a worthwhile achievement, the demonstration of godly character, holds a truly admirable position, or seeks a legitimately important ambition?

- 2) Are you willing to begin with assuming the best of others and choose to be optimistic about people?
- 3) Will you learn to appreciate, revere, and respect someone for what is positive about them?
- 4) When you feel tempted to judge someone improperly, even when they deserve rebuke, will you first find something in them that deserves praise, which should help moderate how I administer that judgment?
- 5) Do you understand that honor can additionally be displayed towards institutions and organizations that collectively meet the same standards as an individual worthy of such acknowledgment?
- 6) Please review your answer to each question and explain your strategy to address it.
- 7) Who will hold you accountable to experience peace?