* **[SLIDE]** RECAP AND OUTLINE(A):
* Matt 5:1-12 : The Different/Blessed life
* Matt 5:13-16: The witness of the Different/Blessed life
* **[SLIDE]** RECAP AND OUTLINE(B):
* Matt 5:17-20: The Different/Blessed life is (a) according to the law, and (b) different from and the Pharisees’ life. It comes right down to the heart…
  + Matt 5:21-58 According to the law (the heart of the law)
  + Matt 6:1-7:20 Above the Pharisees’ life (a right heart involved)
    - Matt 6:1-18 Not showy
    - Matt 6:19-24 It Focuses on God and Not Money
    - Matt 6:25-34 It Focuses on God in spite of the causes to worry about.
    - It does not put itself above the Law in merciless and hypocritical judgement
* **[SLIDE]** TITLE: DO NOT JUDGE, REALLY?
  + - * **Picture**
      * **Tell the story of JOHN CALVIN and the Libertines and the Lord’s super**
      * **Was John Calvin wrong?**
* **[SLIDE]** PASSAGE: Matt 7:1-6

Matthew 7:1–6

[1] “Judge not, that you be not judged. [2] For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. [3] Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? [4] Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when there is the log in your own eye? [5] You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye.

[6] “Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you. (ESV)

* **[SLIDE]** OUTLINE:
* Command 1: Do Not Judge
* Reasons and Clarification:
  + For the same will be done to you
  + Hypocritical judgment
    - Illustration
* Command 2: Don’t give what is holy and precious to dogs and pigs
* **[SLIDE]** DO NOT JUDGE SO AS NOT TO BE JUDGED:

Matthew 7:1

[1] “Judge not, that you be not judged. (ESV)

* **Judge NOT**: This word Judge is the Greek word “Krino”, which is translated in other places as to judge, to condemn, to decide, to put someone on trial, to esteem, to determine.
* Jesus here is commanding us not to judge. But this is very confusing.
* Nowadays this is the one of the most famous Bible verses
* It is often used by all kinds of people “Christians” and Non-Christians alike
* They often use it to tell Christians to let them be what they want to be, to let them live how they want to live
* They usually say “and so what, doesn’t your bible tell you not to judge?”
* It is usually used by that friend watching an ungodly TV show… Who, when you try speaking about it tells you that you can’t judge them because you don’t know their hearts.
* **Or perhaps by that friend who in his innocence out of a genuine concern for the unreached Hindus in an Indian village says we can’t judge them because they have never heard the gospel**.
* **Or perhaps you have heard famous preachers being asked questions about the exclusivity of Jesus or about homosexuality and they immediately say “I am not the one to judge them”**
* **But is this what Jesus meant?**
* Does this command mean we can’t judge and condemn sin
* Does it mean the church can’t discipline and excommunicate unrepentant brothers and sisters in the church?
* Does this mean we should not condemn adultery, fornication, greed, lies, theft, wrath, slander?
* Does this command mean that we can’t warn people about the fact that unrepentant sin leads to hell?
* Does this mean we should never talk about Doctrine? About Theology? Because then saying there is such a thing as right theology is judging already.
* **Does this mean we should close the police and law courts? (Like Toy Stoy says Jesus is doing here).**
* **I know of a pastor in Cameroon who was fired because he preach against greed and sexual sins…**
* **What John Calvin who refused the Lord’s Supper to the Libertines? Was he wrong?**
* **To be able to answer these questions let’s look at a few things the Bible has a whole specifically the NT has to say about judging.**
* **[SLIDE]** WHERE ELSE DOES THE BIBLE SPEAK ABOUT JUDGING (OT)?
* The book of Judges is about God raising up people to Judge the nation (Judges).
* God asked the government (community) of Israel to establish judges who judged justly (Deut 16:18-20)
* He asked Israel as a nation to judge and kill murderers, adulterers who slept with other’s wives, homosexuals, people who slept with animals, to make thieves to repay with extra what they stole (Lev 20:10-21, Ex 22:1, Lev 6:15, Ex 21:16)
* **[SLIDE]** WHERE ELSE DOES THE BIBLE SPEAK ABOUT JUDGING (NT)?

1 Peter 4:17

[17] For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? (ESV)

1 Corinthians 5:12–13

[12] For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge? [13] God judges those outside. “Purge the evil person from among you.” (ESV)

Romans 13:1–3

[1] Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. [2] Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. [3] For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, (ESV)

* For those people who love to put Paul against Peter, it is important to note here that they both say judgement should begin in the house of God.
* In fact Paul says we should “excommunicate members who live in unrepentant sins such as sexual immorality”.
* Paul says the government holds the sword to punish evil and reward good i.e., to judge
* But someone will try to put Paul and Peter against Jesus and say that only Jesus’ words matter. So what did Jesus have to say elsewhere about judging?
* **[SLIDE]** WHERE ELSE DOES JESUS EXPLICITLY SPEAK ABOUT JUDGING? (John 7:24)

John 7:24

[24] Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment.” (ESV)

* People who love to put Paul against Jesus as if Paul’s letters were not Jesus’ words
* Jesus says you should judge. But why do people never quote this verse? Because it doesn’t suit them.
* Jesus also in Matthew 18 tells us to judge unrepentant brothers and if they still don’t repent to treat them as non-Christians.
* In fact Jesus in verse 6 tells us to judge people as pigs and dogs.
* People who love to put the OT against the NT, both promote judgement, though in different contexts
* **[SLIDE]** IS JESUS CONTRADICTING HIMSELF? REASON AND CLARIFICATION

• So is Jesus contradicting himself? Are we to judge or not?

• Of course according to these Bible verses we are to judge with right judgment

* We are to rebuke brothers who fall into sin
* We are to call sin sin
* We are to practice church discipline
* The government is to judge

Matthew 7:1-5

[1] “Judge not, that you be not judged. [2] For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. [3] Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? [4] Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when there is the log in your own eye? [5] You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye. (ESV)

* **[SLIDE]** HE MEANS 1: DON’T BE MERCILESS IN YOUR JUDGEMENT (1)

Matthew 7:1-2

[1] “Judge not, that you be not judged. [2] For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you.

* Thankfully Jesus gives reasons, qualifies his statement and clarifies what he means by do not judge
* Jesus says you shouldn’t judge so that you would not be judge. The **reason why you shouldn’t judge is in order not to be judged.**
* He says **“For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you.”**
* He says two things:
  + First the same judgement you use will be used on you.
  + Second the extent or measure or harshness of condemnation you use will be used on you.
* **[SLIDE]** HE MEANS 1: DON’T BE MERCILESS IN YOUR JUDGEMENT (2)
* **So be merciful even when you are right. Do your judgement in a Spirit of meekness knowing you too are a fallen prone to wander. Hence do so in a Spirit of Meekness.**
* This is similar to what we saw earlier in the Lord’s Prayer, similar to the way Paul tells the Galatians to rebuke fallen brothers. (read texts on slides).
* We can certainly rebuke a sinning brother (Matt 18, Lk 17), but how you do it matters
* We can certainly exercise excommunication, but its purpose is merciful, its purpose should always be restoration.

Matthew 6:12

[12] … and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. (ESV)

Galatians 6:1–2

[1] Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. [2] Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. (ESV)

2 Corinthians 2:5–8

[5] Now if anyone has caused pain, he has caused it not to me, but in some measure—not to put it too severely—to all of you. [6] For such a one, this punishment by the majority is enough, [7] so you should rather turn to forgive and comfort him, or he may be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. [8] So I beg you to reaffirm your love for him. (ESV)

* **[SLIDE]** HE MEANS 2: DON’T BE HYPOCRITICAL (1)

Matthew 7:3-5

[3] Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? [4] Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when there is the log in your own eye? [5] You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye. (ESV)

* The word spec here could also be translated a dry stalk or a chip of wood
* While the word log can be translated beam.
* This was meant to be a shocker.
* **[SLIDE]** HE MEANS 2: DON’T BE HYPOCRITICAL (2)
* **Picture of speck, pole, and speck vs pole**
* In fact look at this picture. Would you ever trust a guy to take out the speck from your eye?
* NEVER right? You would do your best to stay far away right?
* Jesus is saying here that we shouldn’t like the man on this picture. We shouldn’t be like the Pharisees, clean on the inside but on the inside full of perversions.
* Busy looking at any minute faults in others but indulging in it ourselves.
  + We all know pastors who always were busy speaking about purity while at the same time watching all sorts of pervasions and being involved in affairs
  + It reminds me of childhood when I as the elder would rebuke my juniors for not obeying dad and mum they would immediately reply to me “Don’t you do the same?”
* Reminds me of Romans 2 and of Judas
* **[SLIDE]** SCRIPTURAL EXAMPLE(1)

Romans 2:19–22

[19] and if you are sure that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, [20] an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of children, having in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth—[21] you then who teach others, do you not teach yourself? While you preach against stealing, do you steal? [22] You who say that one must not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? (ESV)

* **[SLIDE]** SCRIPTURAL EXAMPLE(2)

John 12:1–6

[1] Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. [2] So they gave a dinner for him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at table. [3] Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. [4] But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, [5] “Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?” [6] He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it. (ESV)

* **When we rebuke others, good questions to be asking ourselves are:**
  + **Are we merciful in the judgement we are pronouncing? Is the extent of the punishment not overboard does the degree of the punishment correspond to the degree of the crime?**
  + **Second are we guilty of the same? Have we been hiding the same sin in our lives?**
* **[SLIDE]** DON’T GIVE WHAT IS HOLY AND PRECIOUS TO DOGS AND PIGS

Matthew 7:6

[6] “Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you. (ESV)

* As we come to the second command it is important to remember the clarification on the previous verses about **“Being merciful and Avoiding Hypocrisy”.**
* **Holy here refers to set apart, sacred, like the innermost part of the temple in the old testament**
* **Pearls refer to precious, to treasures of immense value as in the parable of the man who sold all he had for one just one precious pearls**
* **On the opposite side we have the vile, the profane, the filthy,**
  + **we have dogs… remember dogs where really badly seen in those days, they could eat anything remember they ate Jezebel**
  + **And we have pigs, so unclean creatures that the Jews will not eat them nor even think of ever rearing them.**
* Jesus is saying here not to give the sacred, the holy, the precious to some people, some vile, filthy and profane.
* He then gives the reason, they will despise the holy, the precious, and pigs can’t eat pearls.
* So what will they do? They will trample it underfoot and attack you.
* **[SLIDE]** EXAMPLES: FOOLS
* **In this context the minimum we can conclude the holy here, the precious here refers to advice, or more precisely rebuke.**
  + Jesus is saying there are some people whom you know over and over and over to be ridiculing your precious kind and loving rebukes, don’t waste more time with them.

Proverbs 9:7–8

[7] Whoever corrects a scoffer gets himself abuse, and he who reproves a wicked man incurs injury. [8] Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you; reprove a wise man, and he will love you. (ESV)

Proverbs 23:9

[9] Do not speak in the hearing of a fool, for he will despise the good sense of your words. (ESV)

* **[SLIDE]** EXAMPLES: FALSE TEACHERS
* Deeper however most sound bible teachers also conclude that this is related somehow to the gospel because of the word holy there and the word dogs and pigs. There is one other passage in the New testament that uses all three:

2 Peter 2:1–3 & 21–22

[1] But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. [2] And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed. [3] And in their greed they will exploit you with false words. Their condemnation from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep. (ESV)

[21] For it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than after knowing it to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them. [22] What the true proverb says has happened to them: “The dog returns to its own vomit, and the sow, after washing herself, returns to wallow in the mire.” (ESV)

* The bible is thus saying don’t waste your pearls on people who knowingly continuously left the gospel to return to sin over and over and over again knowing the truth fully well.
* **[SLIDE]** EXAMPLES: PRECIOUSNESS OF THE GOSPEL (1)

Matthew 10:5 & 12-15

[5] These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, “... [12] As you enter the house, greet it. [13] And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. [14] And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town. [15] Truly, I say to you, it will be more bearable on the Day of Judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town. (ESV)

* **[SLIDE]** EXAMPLES: PRECIOUSNESS OF THE GOSPEL(2)

Acts 13:44–46

[44] The next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. [45] But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began to contradict what was spoken by Paul, reviling him. [46] And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, “It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. (ESV)

* I guess we can conclude by saying this. The gospel is precious, don’t let it be trampled. You can share it to people over and over, that is okay, but don’t try to force it down their throats. Once you notice they are becoming vile and aggressive then leave.
* But in it all remember to be gracious, to be merciful, and make sure you yourself are not a hypocrite.
* **[SLIDE]** EXAMPLES: PRECIOUSNESS OF THE GOSPEL(2)
* Let’s be merciful in our judgements remembering how much our Father is merciful to us.
* Let’s not be hypocritical in our judgements
* Let us treat the gospel as precious, being very slow to call others dogs and pigs, yet keeping the gospel jealously once we identify them. Like Calvin.