

P.M. OUTLINE  
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THE "BEAM" AND THE "MOTE"

(Matthew 7:1-5) "Judge not, that you be not judged. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. 3. And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? 4. Or how can you say to your brother, Let me remove the speck from your eye, and look, a plank is in your own eye? 5. Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye."

(John 7:24) "Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment."

Have you ever made a "judgment"? - Of course; we all make "judgments" every day.

1. JUDGING THAT IS NOT FORBIDDEN

(Romans 13:1-7) judgments of the civil courts, law and order.

(Rms. 16:17; Phil. 3:16-19) judgments by the church on those walking disorderly.

(Matthew 24:4-5; Titus 3:10-11) judgments toward false teachers.

(1 Cor. 4:5) "Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes ..."

2. JUDGING THAT IS FORBIDDEN

(McGarvey) "All judging from surmise, insufficient premises, or **ill-will**"

(Robertson) "The habit of sharp and **unjust criticism**"

(Guy N. Woods) "To impute unworthy motives to others, a rebuke made without sufficient evidence, to do so with **design to slander**, destroy, and defame character"

3. WHAT WOULD CAUSE THIS "MOTE-HUNTING" JUDGMENT?

Judas made his judgment to divert attention away from his own "beam."

(John 12:4-6) "This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief"

The mote-hunter may be trying to justify his own lack-luster living by comparing himself to another and saying, "I'm not so bad after-all." (2 Cor. 10:12)

Perhaps an effort to build oneself up by tearing another down. (Luke 18:9-14)

4. WHY DID JESUS CALL THE "MOTE-HUNTER" A "HYPOCRITE!"?

Because we may not know all the facts of a situation: (John 12:7) "But Jesus said, Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of my burial."

(1 Samuel 1:12-15) Hannah prays, Eli thought she was drunk, and Hannah corrects him by giving the facts of the situation.

Because it's possible to be partial in our judgments: (1 Sam. 16:6-7) "Surely the Lord's anointed is before Him ... I have refused him"

Finally, David is presented to Samuel, (v12) "Arise, anoint him: for this is he"

5. WHAT'S THE REMEDY? - ways to avoid being a "nit-picker"