

Questions for Gospel Harmony #33 – The Sermon on the Mount (Part 13)

Matthew 7.1-6; Luke 6.37-42

1. What is meant by the prohibition “judge not”? What is the benefit of following this instruction? Explain the phrase: “good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom.” How will our judgment toward others effect the way in which we are judged? (Matthew 7.1-2; Luke 6.37-38)

Special Question: Is Jesus teaching here that if we ignore sin in the lives of others then God will ignore sin in our lives? If this is not what Jesus means, explain.

2. What is the meaning of this “parable”? How do these three statements about the blind leading the blind, disciples being above their teachers, and people with planks in their own eyes observed specks in the eyes of their brethren, relate the theme of judging? (Matthew 7.4-5; Luke 6.39-42)
3. What does it mean to “give what is holy to the dogs” or to “cast your pearls before swine”? Why does Jesus say this should not be done? How does this instruction relate to the theme of judging? (Matthew 7.6)

Matthew 7.1-6; Luke 6.37-42

Judge not, that you be not judged, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. And He spoke a parable to them: "Can the blind lead the blind? Will they not both fall into the ditch? A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher. And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? 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? Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye. Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you in pieces.