

## One Step to Freedom Chapter 4: Lesson 3- Obedience to God's Word

*Being obedient to God's Word by practicing Righteous Judgement:*

*\*God is The One and Only Judge:*

**James 4:12 (AMP) <sup>12</sup> There is *only* One Lawgiver and Judge, The One who is able to save and to destroy , God who has the absolute power of life and death; but who are you to pass judgment on your neighbor?**

*1.) According to this scripture, Who is The only Lawgiver and Judge?*

*2.) According to this scripture, do we have the right or authority to judge anyone?*

*\*As God is Master of all and everyone is His servant, we have no right to judge anyone:*

**Romans 14:4 (NKJV) <sup>4</sup> Who are you to judge another's servant? To his own Master he stands or falls. Indeed, he will be made to stand, for God is able to make him stand.**

*1.) According to this scripture, do we have the right or authority to judge anyone?*

*\*Let the truth of God bringing everything we do into judgement, keep us from judging anyone:*

**Ecclesiastes 12:14 (NKJV) <sup>14</sup> For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.**

*1.) Keeping God's judgement in mind how should we be conducting ourselves*

*2.) What scriptures come to mind to instruct us in our behavior with God's judgement in mind?*

*\*Let the truth of God bringing everything we say into judgement, keep us from judging anyone:*

**Matthew 12:36-37 (NKJV) <sup>36</sup> But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. <sup>37</sup> For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”**

*1.) In reflection of these verses how should we be speaking before God and men?*

*2.) What scriptures come to mind regarding our speech?*

*\*The correct perspective on Righteous judgement:*

**Matthew 7:1-5 (NKJV) “Judge not, that you be not judged. <sup>2</sup> For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. <sup>3</sup> And why do you look at the speck in your brother’s eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? <sup>4</sup> 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? <sup>5</sup> Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.**

*1.) Instead of judging someone, what should we be doing?*

*2.) What can we think to do when we find ourselves becoming judgemental towards someone?*

*3.) In vs.5; What are we considered if we are judging someone?*

*\*The only judgement we should be concerned with is God`s judgement of ourselves:*

**1 Corinthians 4:3-5 (AMP)** <sup>3</sup> But [as for me personally] it matters very little to me that I may be judged by you or *any* human court [on this or any point]; in fact, I do not even judge myself.<sup>4</sup> I am aware of nothing against myself *and* I feel blameless, but I am not by this acquitted [before God]. It is the Lord who judges me. <sup>5</sup> So do not go on passing judgment before the appointed time, *but wait* until the Lord comes, for He will both bring to light the [secret] things that are hidden in darkness and disclose the motives of the hearts. Then each one`s praise will come from God.

1.) *In vs.3; Who shall we not be concerned with in regards to judgement towards us?*

2.) *In vs.4; What is the personal warning and instruction regarding judgement?*

3.) *In vs.5; What is the ultimate instruction given regarding passing judgement on anyone?*

*\*When we judge someone we are in contempt of God`s court:*

**Romans 14:10 (NKJV)** <sup>10</sup> But why do you judge your brother? <sup>b</sup> Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.

1.) *In vs.10b; What is judging another likened to?*

2.) *According to this verse, what should be stopping us from judging another?*

3.) *What is The Judgement Seat of Christ?*

*\*We judge someone when we speak evil of them and are in contempt of God`s court:*

**James 4:11 (NKJV) <sup>11</sup> Do not speak evil of one another, brethren. He who speaks evil of a brother and judges his brother, <sup>a</sup> speaks evil of the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, <sup>b</sup> you are not a doer of the law but a judge.**

*1.) In vs.11a; In speaking evil of another, what else are we speaking evil of and judging?*

*2.) In vs.11b; What position do we put ourselves in when speaking evil of and judging another?*

*\*Whenever we Judge anyone we condemn ourselves and find ourselves in contempt of God`s court and come under God`s judgement:*

**Romans 2:1-3 (NKJV) <sup>1</sup>Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things. <sup>2</sup> But we know that the judgment of God is according to truth against those who practice such things. <sup>3</sup> And do you think this, O man, you who judge those practicing such things, and doing the same, that you will escape the judgment of God?**

*1.) According to vs.1; Is there any justification or excuse for judging anyone?*

*2.) What do you think vs.2 means?*

*3.) In vs.3; What is the key to keep us from judging one another?*

*\*Food for thought; If we are honest with ourselves; how many times in the past have we judged someone for something they did or said and find ourselves presently doing and saying those very same things?*

*\*God`s instruction on righteous judgement*

**Romans 14:13 (KJV) <sup>13a</sup> Let us not therefore judge one another anymore: <sup>b</sup> but judge this rather, that no man put a stumbling block or an occasion to fall in his brother's way.**

*1.) In vs.13a; What is the instruction given regarding judging one another?*

*2.) In vs.13b; According to this verse; Instead of judging one another, what should we be judging?*

*\*As the body of Christ collectively, we should be be judging ourselves to be a good example before God and men:*

**1 Peter 4:17 (KJV) <sup>17a</sup> For the time is come <sup>b</sup> that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, <sup>c</sup> what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?**

*1.) In vs.17a; What is the time to come referring to?*

*2.) In vs.17b; Where and with whom does it say that judgement begins?*

*3.) In vs.17c; Whom shall we have in mind regarding judgement beginning with us?*

**1 Corinthians 11:31-32 (AMP) <sup>31</sup> But if we evaluated *and* judged ourselves honestly [recognizing our shortcomings and correcting our behavior], we would not be judged. <sup>32a</sup> But when we [fall short and] are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined [by undergoing His correction] <sup>b</sup>so that we will not be condemned [to eternal punishment] along with the world.**

*In vs 31; What is the benefit of judging ourselves?*

*In vs 32a; What are the two things that happens if we fail to judge ourselves?*

*In vs 32b; What is reason /benefit in being judged and disciplined by The Lord?*

*\*We should be preaching the Gospel instead of Judging people, keeping in mind that we have been spared God`s judgement:*

**John 5:24 (NKJV) <sup>24</sup>“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.**

*\* Instead of Judging people we should be in fear for those that are subject to God`s judgement:*

**2 Peter 3:7 (NKJV) <sup>7</sup> But the heavens and the earth *which* are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.**

**2 Corinthians 5:11(NKJV) Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences.**

*\*Other things we should be doing instead of judging one another or anyone:*

**1 Corinthians 10:32-33 (NKJV) <sup>32</sup> Give no offense, either to the Jews or to the Greeks or to the church of God, <sup>33</sup> just as I also please all *men* in all *things*, not seeking my own profit, but the *profit* of many, that they may be saved.**

**Galatians 6:10(NKJV) <sup>10</sup> Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.**

**Romans 12:17-18 (AMP) <sup>17</sup> Never repay anyone evil for evil. Take thought for what is right *and* gracious *and* proper in the sight of everyone. <sup>18</sup> If possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone**

**1 Peter 2:12(NKJV) <sup>12</sup> having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by *your* good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.**

**1 Thessalonians 4:11(NKJV) that you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you,**

**Colossians 4:5-6 (NKJV)<sup>5</sup> Walk in wisdom toward those *who are outside the faith*, redeeming the time. *Let* your speech always *be* with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.**