

PRACTICE LOVING DISCERNMENT
(Matthew 7:1-6)

- I. Beware a CRITICAL SPIRIT (Matt. 7:1-5)
 - A. The PRINCIPLE (7:1)
 - 1. STOP JUDGING others
 - 2. So you will NOT be JUDGED
 - B. The WARNING (7:2)
 - 1. You will be judged in the SAME WAY you judge
 - 2. You will be judged by the SAME STANDARD by which you judge
 - C. The EXPLANATION (7:3-5)
 - 1. Why do you CONDEMN your BROTHER?
 - 2. Remove YOUR OWN sin FIRST
 - 3. Failure to do so makes you a HYPCRITE
 - 4. Doing so makes you ABLE to see CLEARLY to aid your brother
 - D. The APPLICATION
 - 1. We must DISTINGUISH/JUDGE between right and wrong, truth and error, good and evil

2. We must evaluate ourselves by the SAME STANDARD we apply to fellow believers
3. We must cultivate a spirit of HUMILITY, not of CONDEMNATION
4. We must exercise SOUND JUDGMENT

II. Beware UNCRITICAL ACCEPTANCE (Matt. 7:6)

A. The PRINCIPLE (7:6a)

1. Don't give what is SACRED to "DOGS"
2. Don't give what is VALUABLE to "PIGS"

B. The CONSEQUENCE (7:6b)

1. The sacred and valuable will be TRAMPLED
2. You may be ATTACKED and MAULED