

Myth #7: Part II The Church is a Holy Club

Matt. 5:21-32 ...if you are *angry* with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment;

...if you *insult* a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council...

...if you say, '*You fool,*' you will be liable to the hell of fire.

...everyone who *looks at a woman with lust* has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

...*anyone who divorces his wife*...causes her to commit adultery; and *whoever marries a divorced woman* commits adultery.

Matt. 12:37...on the day of judgment you will have to give an account for *every careless word* you utter..."

Matt. 5:48 "*Be perfect*... as your heavenly Father is perfect."

Rom. 3:10-12

“...*no one* who is righteous, *not even one*;
no one... has understanding,
no one who seeks God.

All have turned aside, together they have become
worthless;

there is *no one* who shows kindness,
there is *not even one*.

Rom 3:20 ...no human being will be justified in his
sight by deeds prescribed by the law, for through
the law comes the knowledge of sin.

Rom. 3:23 ... *all* have sinned and fall short of the
glory of God;

Rom. 5:8 But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

2Cor. 5:21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God

Matt. 7:1-5 “Do not judge, so that you may not be judged..... how can you say to your neighbor, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ while the log is in your own eye?

James 4:8-12 Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.... Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you. Do not speak evil against one another, brothers and sisters. Whoever speaks evil against another or judges another, speaks evil against the law and judges the law; but if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. There is one lawgiver and judge who is able to save and to destroy. So who, then, are you to judge your neighbor?

Rom. 2:1-4 Therefore you have no excuse, whoever you are, when you judge others; for in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, are doing the very same things. You say, “We know that God’s judgment on those who do such things is in accordance with truth.” Do you imagine, whoever you are, that when you judge those who do such things and yet do them yourself, you will escape the judgment of God? Or do you despise the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience?

Luke 13:1-5 At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

Mt 10:8 Freely you have received; freely give.

What Does This Look Like In Practice?

Three Issues

I. Won't the message of outrageous mercy create a community of people who are lax about sin?

Rom. 6:1 What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound?

Rom. 6:2, 10-11. By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ... We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin....The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

II. Doesn't the Bible encourage us to hold each other accountable?

James 5:16 Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed.

Eph. 4:15 ...speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,

III. Don't We Have to Intervene Sometimes?

1. Yes, in cases that harm other people.

1Cor. 5:1-2, 5 It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that is not found even among pagans; for a man is living with his father's wife. And you are arrogant! Should you not rather have mourned, so that he who has done this would have been removed from among you? ... you are to hand this man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.

2. Yes, in cases involving leaders with public sins.

1Tim. 5:19-20 Never accept any accusation against an elder except on the evidence of two or three witnesses. As for those who persist in sin, rebuke them in the presence of all...

1Tim. 3:2 an overseer must be above reproach,

James 3:1 Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.