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Faultless...

Yet a Hypocrite!!

Dave Roberson

I want to share with you what the Word says about judgment, not the hell, fire, and brimstone kind, but the kind that deals with you and I as believers and just when it is that our judging of other people evokes a judgment back upon ourselves.

It seems as though we are in a time when hidden sins are being pulled out of the closet and put on public display causing the confidence of many sheep to be shattered because great men of God are not what they appear to be.

With so many things tearing away at the Body of Christ, you cannot help but wonder how many people actually have hidden sins in their lives and just exactly where is the line that a person crosses that evokes judgment back upon themselves.

All of us have faults. I cannot ever remember meeting anyone who did not eventually expose one kind of fault or another given enough time.

The question is, when do you and I cross that line where our faults are such that they give the devil some kind of legal access to our person?

As the church world, we tend to look upon those who have fallen to temptation and cry, "HYPOCRITE! The question is, are they, as the Word says, overtaken by a fault and need restoring ... or are they hypocrites that need stoning?

The first thing we need to do is define the difference between a hypocrite and a man overtaken by a fault ... and, of course, the best place to get that definition is from the Word of God.

Matthew 7:1-6 says: "Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye. Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you."

You and I know that God uses mere men with faults and thank God that he does or he would not be able to use any of us. And we know for a fact that God pots up with quite a number of things from

laziness to immorality while still continuing to use men and women.

But once again the question is, "No matter how small or large the fault or sin may appear to be, what is it that a person finally does to cross that line to bring judgment into his or her situation?"

To help you understand judgment, I would like to state that even though a person may be loaded with faults, it is not the faults that gives the devil the right to judge their life or situation. It is when a person enters into HYPOCRISY that he violates certain spiritual principles that opens the door and gives the devil that right. These principles can be violated in several distinct areas in the life of a believer.

When a person is guilty of certain things in his or her life such as lying, cheating, stealing, exaggerating, immorality, ... when they then judge a person with a LIKE FAULT who needs help instead of trying to restore that person, they cross the line into hypocrisy and judgment.

They begin to judge and condemn other people for the very things they are guilty of. God will do anything to help a person overcome their faults but, when a person sits in judgment and condemns other people for the things they are guilty of, they are exalting themselves spiritually into a false position with God which in reality they do not hold. This then gives the devil a legal right to pull the foundation out from under their self-exaltation.

This is why Matthew 7:3 says: "*And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brothers eye: but considerest not the beam that is in thins own eye?*"\

What He is saying in this verse is how can you look upon your brother's faults setting yourself up as some kind of spiritual judge without considering all the things that you are guilty of or the beam that is in your own eye?

In Matthew 7:5, Jesus calls a man in this condition a hypocrite: "*THOU HYPOCRITE ... first cast out the beam out of thins own eye; and thou shall see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.*"

Then a hypocrite is not just a person who covers his faults or sins and appears to be something he is not but the true definition of a hypocrite is someone who JUDGES OTHER PEOPLE while he himself is GUILTY of the SAME THINGS.

A person may be guilty of certain things in his life and be covering them up while begging God for deliverance. Yet he does not want his faults to be exposed because of knowing what it would do to new Christians and to those who are in the world who are watching his life. A man in this condition is not a hypocrite but a man overtaken by a fault who needs restoring.

You see, hypocrites will cover their faults and sins because they want to appear to be something they are not and, in their facade (or front they put on), they further elevate themselves by pretending to be Godly by setting themselves up as JUDGE over other people's lives!

It is this false position of Godliness that gives the devil free access to that person's life. This is why the fifth and sixth verses read the way they do.

They are actually one thought: *"Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thins own eye; and then shaft thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye. Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rent you."*

Then the holy things a person gives unto dogs ... or the pearls a person casts before swine ... are the very truths that he is violating by hypocritically JUDGING his brother when he himself is guilty of the same sin.

For instance, let's just say a brother is guilty of lying and cheating ... as long as he hates these faults within himself and seeks God to overcome them, God will help him. He is a man who is overcome by a fault.

But, when he begins to JUDGE his brother for the same sin he is guilty of with the intent of spiritually elevating himself above that brother, then the precious truth that he has violated, such as "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor", is the very truth that is being thrown to the dogs ... that truth is the very pearl being cast before swine.

In the realm of the spirit, this is what gives the devil the authority to rend him because as verse two says; "with what measure ye mete (or measure out in judgment), it shall be MEASURED TO YOU AGAIN". It is the spiritual truth this person has violated from which Satan derives his power to turn on him again to rend him.

So, when a person casts a pearl before swine, the first thing the devil does is trample that pearl beneath his feet. The devil then takes the power and truth contained in the verse and uses it as evidence against the person to bring an indictment of hypocrisy against him.

Ultimately, what the devil is attempting to do when he brings judgment upon a person, is not just the destruction of that person but he also wants to discredit the Word of God. He wants to take the holy truth that, as the sixth verse says, was thrown to the dogs or that precious pearl that was cast before swine and trample them underfoot by using the life of a hypocrite to put the Word of God on public display - to destroy any confidence that the world or sinner may have had in the validity of the Word of God.

For example, let's take the life of a certain international evangelist who has been exposed for sins of lasciviousness (disregarding sexual restraint). However, before we do that, I want to thank God for his recovery and restoration to the ministry.

Evidently this had been a problem with this evangelist for quite some time and you can rest assured that he hated himself for allowing this thing to get a hold on his flesh much, much, more than you and I could ever hate him.

The evangelist crossed over the line from a man with a fault needing restoration to a man receiving judgment from Satan when he tried to elevate himself to a position of spirituality by going after the mote in his brother's eye at PTL while he himself had a beam in his own eye. He further agitated the situation by attacking the faith people and advocating the book on "THE SEDUCTION OF CHRISTIANITY".

So, when the devil began to rend this man, he took the precious Gospel that the evangelist had preached and trampled it underfoot by using the man's hypocrisy as proof that there is nothing to the Word of God.

But, thank God for His grace! Let me show you how strong the grace of God can be. Even though there will be thousands of people in hell because of the fall of this man's ministry in front of the whole world - even though sinners were looking in the direction of this man and his ministry thinking maybe there is a God, maybe there is hope only to find out the man who represented this hope was a victim himself to the very things they wanted to be free from, yet in the face of all of this, when this man enters into heaven, none of these things will be held against him because of the blood of Jesus Christ, our advocate.

Here then is the grace of God. According to I John 1:9: *"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all UNRIGHTEOUSNESS."*

I want you to notice that He said, "ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS!" it would be impossible to be cleansed otherwise because cleansed means to be separated completely from, not only the sin, but also the repercussions that the sin may have caused. Clean as if the person had been reinstated back into the original condition before the sin ever existed. Like I said, it would be impossible to be cleansed and still have God holding anything against us.

I do thank God for a perfect infallible Gospel. There is just one problem ... the men who preach the Gospel are imperfect fallible creatures. Yet Jesus receives all who come to Him into His kingdom where you and I and Jesus work on our problems together.

JUST REMEMBER, it is not your imperfections or faults that open the door to Satan's judgment ... it is when we judge our brother for the very things we are guilty of.

I have found a spiritual law involved in all of this. When a person singles out someone who is caught up in the same kind of problem they are ... instead of judging them, pray for them and, instead of opening the door to Satan's judgment, the door to God's POWER will be opened up!

This is why Matthew 7:12 says: *"Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them: for this is the law and the prophets."*

The Word is saying that, when we treat other people the way we ourselves would like to be treated, although people will not always treat us the way we want in return, God will operate towards us or, as the twelfth verse says, "will do unto us or treat us the way that we want to be treated ..." **GOD WILL FORGIVE US OUR FAULTS AND DIRECT HIS POWER TO IN US.**