

What does the Bible say?

Luke. 12:57. **Yea, and why even of yourselves judge ye not what is right?**

Ex. 18:16 When they have a matter, they come unto me; and ***I judge*** between one and another, and I do make them know the statutes of God, and his laws.

18:17 And Moses' father in law said unto him, The thing that thou doest is not good.

18:18 Thou wilt surely wear away, both thou, and this people that is with thee: for this thing is too heavy for thee; thou art not able to perform it thyself alone.

18:19 Hearken now unto my voice, I will give thee counsel, and God shall be with thee: Be thou for the people to God-ward, that thou mayest bring the causes unto God:

18:20 And thou shalt teach them ordinances and laws, and shalt show them the way wherein they must walk, and the work that they must do.

18:21 Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens:

18:22 And let them judge the people at all seasons: and it shall be, that every great matter they shall bring unto thee, but every small matter they shall judge: so shall it be easier for thyself, and they shall bear the burden with thee.

18:23 If thou shalt do this thing, and God command thee so, then thou shalt be able to endure, and all this people shall also go to their place in peace.

18:24 So Moses hearkened to the voice of his father in law, and did all that he had said.

Pro. 21:3 To do justice and ***judgment*** is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

1 Cor. 5:12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? ***do not ye judge them that are within?***

6:1 Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unjust, and not before the saints?

6:2 Do ye not know that the saints shall ***judge*** the world? and if the world shall be ***judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters?***

6:3 Know ye not that we shall judge angels? **how much more things that pertain to this life?**

6:4 If then ye have judgments of things pertaining to this life, ***set them to judge*** who are least esteemed in the church.

6:5 I speak to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you? no, ***not one that shall be able to judge between his brethren?***

10:15 I speak as to wise men; ***judge ye what I say.***

11:13 ***Judge in yourselves:*** is it comely that a woman pray unto God uncovered?

11:31 For if we would ***judge ourselves,*** we should not be judged.

14:29 Let the prophets speak two or three, and ***let the other judge.***

Eccl. 8:5 Whoso keepeth the commandment shall feel no evil thing: and ***a wise man's heart discerneth both time and judgment.***

Eze. 44:23 And ***they shall teach*** my people the difference between the holy and profane, and ***cause them to discern between*** the unclean and the clean.

44:24 And in controversy they shall stand in judgment; and ***they shall judge it according to my judgments:*** and they shall keep my laws and my statutes in all mine assemblies; and they shall hallow my sabbaths.

1Kings.3:9 Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart ***to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad:*** for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?

3:10 And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.

3:11 And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment;

Rev. 2:2 I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast ***tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:***

In the Last days Christ's people will:

Mal. 3:16 Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.

3:17 And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

3:18 Then shall ye return, and ***discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.***

2Cor. 11:13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, ***transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.***

2Cor. 10:1 Now I Paul myself beseech you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ, who in presence am base among you, but being absent am bold toward you: 2 But I beseech you, that I may not be ***bold when I am present*** with that confidence, wherewith I think to be bold against some, which think of us as if we walked according to the flesh. 3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: 4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the ***pulling down*** of strong holds;) 5 ***Casting down*** imaginations, and every ***high thing that exalteth itself*** against the knowledge of God, and bringing ***into captivity*** every thought to the obedience of Christ; 6 And having ***in a readiness to revenge all disobedience,*** when your obedience is fulfilled. 7 Do ye look on things after the outward appearance? If any man trust to himself that he is Christ's, let him of himself think this again, that, as he is Christ's, even so are

we Christ's. 8 For though I should boast somewhat more of our *authority*, which the Lord hath given us for *edification*, and not for your destruction, I should not be ashamed: 9 That I may not seem as if I would terrify you by letters. 10 For his letters, say they, *are weighty and powerful*; but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech contemptible. 11 Let such an one think this, that, *such as we are in word by letters when we are absent, such will we be also in deed when we are present*. 12 For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise. (we are to compare ourselves to Christ) 13 But we will not boast of things *without our measure, but according to the measure of the rule which God hath distributed to us, a measure to reach even unto you.* 14 *For we stretch not ourselves beyond our measure, as though we reached not unto you:* for we are come as far as to you also in preaching the gospel of Christ: 15 Not boasting of things without our *measure*, that is, of other men's labours; but having hope, when your faith is increased, that we shall be enlarged by you according to *our rule* abundantly, 16 To preach the gospel in the regions beyond you, and not to boast in another man's line of things made ready to our hand. 17 But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. 18 For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth. Second Para., and contents mine.

Note: Here is seen two different standards of measure; one, self imposed, by which professed nominal christians measure themselves and others, and the standard which the true followers of Jesus measure themselves and others. "And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein." Rev. 11:1. "And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations." 1Sam. 8:5.

Then how shall we Know?

Rom. 16:17 Now I beseech you, brethren, *mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.*

16:18 For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.

1 Cor. 5:11 But now I have written unto you *not to keep company*, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.

5:12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?

2 Tim. 2:17 And *their word will eat as doth a canker*: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus;

Rev. 2:2 I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou *hast tried them which say they are apostles*, and are not, and hast found them liars:

3 John. 1:9 I wrote unto the church: but Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not.

1:10 Wherefore, if I come, ***I will remember his deeds*** which he doeth, prating against us with malicious words: and not content therewith, neither doth he himself receive the brethren, and forbiddeth them that would, and casteth them out of the church.

2 Cor. 6:14 Be ye not ***unequally yoked*** together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

Gal. 1:6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:

1:7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would ***pervert the gospel*** of Christ.

1:8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, ***let him be accursed.***

1:9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, ***let him be accursed.***

Col. 2:8 ***Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.***

1 Thess. 5:14 Now we exhort you, brethren, ***warn them*** that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.

1 Tim. 6:5 Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: ***from such withdraw thyself.***

Titus. 3:10 A man that is an heretic after the first and second admonition ***reject;***

3:11 Knowing that he that is such is ***subverted, and sinneth, being condemned*** of himself.

Matt. 5:44 But I say unto you, ***Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;***

5:45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

6:14 For if ye ***forgive*** men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:

6:15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

16:12 Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the ***doctrine*** of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

I plead with you, dear brother, take off thy shoes from off thy feet, and walk softly before God. Snares and perils surround us. Let us individually be sure that we possess and manifest the religion of love, not of bigotry. Catch every ray of light from heaven, and let it shine before men.

But **we must be sure that it is true light.** *There is a broad, clear line drawn by the eternal God between the children of God and the children of the wicked one.* We must be wide awake now, for it was while men slept that the tares were sown among the wheat. *The time is soon to come when we shall discern between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.* {1888 1145.2}

Those who cannot discern between him that serveth God and him that serveth Him not, may be charmed with these societies that have no connection with God, but ***no earnest Christian can prosper in such an atmosphere.*** The vital air of heaven is not there. His soul is barren, and he feels as destitute of the refreshing of the Holy Spirit as were the hills of Gilboa of dew and rain. {2SM 126.3}

The president of the General Conference [SEE APPENDIX.] should have the privilege of deciding who shall stand by his side as counselors. Those who will keep the way of the Lord, who will preserve clear, sharp discernment by cultivating home religion, are safe counselors. Of such a one the Searcher of hearts saith, "I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment." Counselors of the character that God chose for Moses are needed by the president of the General Conference. It was his privilege at least to express his preference as to the men who should be his counselors. It was his privilege to discern between him that serveth God and him that serveth Him not. But a strange blindness was upon him. There has been a leavening influence upon human minds, and it has been most painful. For years God has been dishonored. . . . {TM 342.2}

If we would be one with Christ, we must first be one with each other. Those who are not yoked up with Christ always pull the wrong way. There are elements that belong wholly to man's natural temperament, and passion is wide-awake to meet passion. Then there is a collision, and Satan uses these elements to bring in confusion. The loud voice is heard in committee meetings, in board meetings, in the public assembly, opposing the will and ways of reform, of purity. ***When these elements are fully developed, those who have been deceived by them may return and discern between him that serveth God and him that serveth Him not.*** {20MR 319.6}

Those who profess to be Christians in these last days which are full of peril, and do not imitate the humble, self-denying Pattern, place themselves in the enemy's ranks. He considers them his subjects, and they serve as important a purpose for Satan as any of his subjects, for they have a name to live and are dead. Others take them for example, and by following them lose Heaven, when if they had not professed to be Christians, they would have shunned their example. These unconsecrated professors are not aware of the weight of their influence. They make the conflict much more severe for those who would be God's peculiar people. Paul, in Titus 2:15, refers to God's people who are looking for the appearing of Christ. He says, "These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke, with all authority. Let no man despise thee." As we bear testimony against pride and following the fashions of the world, we are met with excuses and self-justification. Some urge the example of others. Such a sister wears hoops; if it is wrong for me to wear them, it is wrong for her. Children urge the example of other children, whose parents are Sabbath-keepers. Bro. A. is a deacon of the church. His children wear hoops, and why is it any

worse for me to wear them than it is for them? Those who by their example furnish unconsecrated professors with arguments against those who would be peculiar, are laying a cause of stumbling in the way of the weak, and to God they must render an account for such example. I am often asked, "What do you think of hoops?" I reply, I have given you the light which has been given me. I was shown that hoops were a shame, and that we should not give the least countenance to a fashion carried to such ridiculous lengths. I am often surprised to hear that "sister White says it is not wrong to wear small hoops." No one has ever heard me say this. After being shown what I have in regard to hoops, nothing would induce me to give the least encouragement to any to wear them. Heavy quilts and hoops are alike unnecessary. He that framed us never designed that we should be deformed with hoops, or anything to look like them. It is the inventions and fashions of the world that have led God's people, and they are unwilling to move out independent of the fashions and customs of the world. While I study God's word, I am alarmed for the Israel of God in these last days. They are exhorted to flee from idolatry. I fear that God's people are asleep, and so conformed to the world that we can hardly know them, or discern between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not. The distance is widening between Christ and his people, and lessening between them and the world. The marks of distinction between Christ's professed people and the world, have almost disappeared. They follow after the abominations of the nations around them, as did ancient Israel. From what has been shown me, hoops are an abomination. They are indecent, and God's people err if they follow, in the least degree, or give countenance to, this fashion. {4bSG 66.1}

Or How shall we be not deceived if we cannot judge?

1 Cor. 6:9; 15:33; Luke 21:8; Gal. 6:7; Eph. 5:6; 1John 3:7; 2Thess. 2:3