

## “I DID NOT COME TO JUDGE”

### I. “I DID NOT COME TO JUDGE”

#### A. **John 12:47-48**

Jesus said that His purpose while on earth wasn't oriented around immediate judgment, but to enlighten those who would hear that salvation is available in Him, which does not preclude eventual judgment on His part. Indeed the words He uttered while in the flesh are what will ultimately judge every soul.

#### B. **Acts 17:30-31; 10:36-42**

It was always God's plan for the Son to die and rise from death before the final judgment because His power over the grave is the signal that He is qualified to judge! God intends for people to prepare for judgment when they are persuaded by the resurrection that the One who rose is worthy to judge!

#### C. **John 3:17-21; 5:26-30**

Again, salvation was the goal of the first advent, but those rejecting salvation have chosen condemnation and future judgment is certain.

### II. “NEITHER DO I CONDEMN YOU”

#### A. **John 8:1-11**

One event during Jesus' ministry stands out to some as a blanket refusal on the Lord's part to cast judgment upon those engaged in immoral behavior, but that is a very superficial approach to this narrative.

#### B. **John 18:31**

The woman's accusers didn't sincerely bring her to Jesus for a verdict because they were merely testing Him (**John 8:6**). Had they meant for her to undergo trial for her sin, they would have taken her to the power then authorized to execute the death penalty.

#### C. **Leviticus 20:10; Deuteronomy 22:22**

The feigned an appeal to the Law of Moses ([John 8:5](#)), but had they cared for what that Law actually required, they would have known she could not have been prosecuted alone. It takes two to tango. So, where was the man? Legally, no stoning could have taken place. Jesus was following the exact letter of the law when He refrained from condemnation in this case.

**D. [Deuteronomy 17:7](#)**

When Jesus invited the accusers to cast the first stone ([John 8:7](#)), He was, again, strictly adhering to lawful requirements, but since they kept the adulterer concealed and only produced the adulteress, they knew they were not without sin.

**III. “JUDGE WITH RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT”**

**A. [John 7:24](#); [1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 16:7](#)**

Christ commands we judge, actually – provided the judgment is “*righteous*” and not according to appearance.

**B. [Matthew 7:1-5](#); [Romans 2:1-4](#)**

What often disqualifies man’s judgment is that it may be hypocritical. That does not make the exercise of judgment the problem.

**C. [1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 6:1-8](#); [Jude 14-15](#); [Matthew 12:41-42](#)**

Indeed, saints will have a serious role in providing judgment on the last day.

**D. [Philippians 1:9](#); [Hebrews 5:14](#)**

Discernment is an ability in which Christians are taught to “*grow*,” and when we do so, we are able to distinguish good from evil.