

# LEARNING FROM THE PARABLES OF CHRIST

Matthew 11:28-30  
Mark 4:1-12 & Matthew 13

Wednesday, November 16, 2011  
7 PM - 8:30 PM

## ON BEING JUDGMENTAL “PARABLE OF THE MOTE & THE BEAM”

MATTHEW 7:1-5

**THESIS:** One of the important developmental needs of Spiritual Character is Wisdom from God (James 1:5-8).

### INTRODUCTION

Keep in mind, the parable is an extended figure of speech in which one thing is likened to another. “A parable is a saying or story that seeks to drive home a point the speaker wishes to emphasize by illustrating it from a familiar situation of common life” (Zondervan Encyclopedia of the Bible). The parable will illustrate truth; impart instruction; and increase information.

The parable of “The Mote and The Beam” follows Christ’s revelation in Chapter 6:19-34 concerning how the worries about the things of this life hinder our attitude, aspiration and action toward God. In Chapter 7:1-12, He shows, 1) it is equally dangerous to be inclined to find fault, or be harshly critical of others and 2) this is a serious sign of ignorance and a hindrance to Spiritual Vision and Discernment. The Grace of God is required to overcome judgmentalness and to exercise judgment rightly can be obtained by prayer (vv. 7-11).

Christ directs us to order our conversation correctly, both toward God and man. We are cautioned against judging. Being judgmental towards others is prohibited. “Judge” not (GK. “krino” denotes to determine, to condemn, to pronounce judgment, or to sentence). Our own acts and our own selves, we can “determine” by the Word of God. However, we cannot sit in the judgment-seat over our brother. With the same judgment we use on others, that same judgment will be used on us in the present and/or in the future. He bids us not to judge one another. It is dangerous. The critic becomes unpleasantly unpopular. His conduct becomes irritating, prompts hostile relations and motivates people to be on the look out for his faults, failures and offenses. It is hypocritical. The pretender is usually the last to perceive his own sin. There is nothing which so hinders a person from heart-searching self-examination, nothing which so hardens him in self-complacent pride, as the habit of finding fault with other people. It is futile. While there is a “beam” in his own eye the critic cannot remove the “mote” from his brother’s eye. Any “malfunction in vision” will allow only a mismanaged and messed up attempt, that will provide much pain and yet not bring the result of its purpose. The “beam” must go first. Get rid of the “beam” and then you can more clearly see the “mote”. While a man is blinded to his own sin, he cannot save others, or lead others in the Light, or to the Light.

## **BODY**

### **I THE MOTE**

- A. Weights (?)**
- B. Wants (?)**
- C. Walk (?)**

### **II THE BEAM**

- A. Selfish Pride**
- B. Uncharitableness**
- C. Hypocrisy**

### **III DOGS & SWINE (v.6)**

**“We must recognize the great and fundamental differences that there are between men. We must not treat those who are mere dogs and swine as if they were able to appreciate either the holiness or the beauty and wealth of spiritual truth. The metaphor is taken from the law that the things offered in sacrifice were no longer to be treated as common food (Lev. 22:1-16).” “The Book of Matthew,” The Pulpit Commentary, Eerdmans Publishing Company, Grand Rapids, Michigan**

- A. Dogs**
  - 1. Scavengers**
  - 2. Dirty**
  - 3. Defiled**
- B. Swine**
  - 1. Ignorance**
  - 2. Head in the mud**
  - 3. Personal animosity, rejection of gospel and hostile feelings toward those who offer the gospel to them.**

