

THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP



JUDGE NOT, LEST YE BE JUDGED



- ⌚ Good and evil are certainly real, but as Jesus' disciples we can never make them ideological categories the we hold separate from Him.
- ⌚ If we do take it upon ourselves to judge the good and evil in others we inhibit Christ's grace coming to them and bring judgment upon ourselves.
- ⌚ How do we put these words into practice?

JUDGE NOT, LEST YE BE JUDGED

Here is the paradox: the way in which we most powerfully express our hatred of sin is to love the sinner without condition and without drawing any meaningful distinctions between one person and another. This applies just as much to ourselves as to others.

Let's unpack this. How does this work?

THE WEAKNESS OF THE WORD OF GOD



- ⌚ Paradoxically the Word of God that we are called to proclaim at all times and in all places, in word and deed, is the weakest of all proclamations.
- ⌚ It requires something far subtler and more yielding than the ways we tend to fight for the ideologies we hold most strongly.
- ⌚ Can you think of some examples of how individuals do this well? How churches do it well?

THE GREAT DIVIDE



- 🕒 It's hard to argue with Bonhoeffer that if the path we are called to take is the sort of extraordinary and yet invisible righteousness about which Jesus has been talking in this whole sermon, it is an impossibly narrow one indeed.
- 🕒 And yet, if we keep our eyes unblinkingly on Jesus as the Pioneer and Guide, our odds of success are 100%.
- 🕒 What does it mean to do this?

THE GREAT DIVIDE



- 🕒 Bonhoeffer outlines a threefold progression that leads to the final destination:

Confessing Jesus as Lord

Obeying his Word

Being known by him as a good and faithful servant.

- 🕒 This sounds in a lot of ways like a highly fearful path. How can we read this as a promise as opposed to a threat.

THE HOUSE BUILT ON ROCK

- 🕒 Jesus closes his thunderous sermon with simple marching orders: Take these words of mine and do them. Don't analyze them, don't interpret them, don't enshrine them, just do them.
- 🕒 Sounds simple enough, but how do we do it?

