



REPENT

AND

DON'T CASTE THE STONE

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My books are designed to elevate my gifts as an example in the Body of Christ from my divine encounters and experiences with the spirit of God, Christ & the Holy Spirit for the purpose edification through encouraging, educating, empowering, equipping, engaging by faith for the glory of God in his Kingdom and to “keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace” (Ephesians 4:3).

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Introduction

Judging Others

Today, I am in the hotseat with my husband because I was judging someone I knew. He told me that I did not have the right to judge a person's situation even if I knew them well. He said it was not my place to judge someone because of my own personal opinions.



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He further reiterated that I did not know the person's upbringing or experiences that may have blocked them from making decisions to help them change. He said everyone did not have the same opportunities that I experienced to help them understand their circumstances and make the necessary changes. When he confronted me, the first response in my mind was to get upset and latch out at him, but the Holy Spirit silenced my response because he was speaking the truth

in love. The Holy Spirit is powerful when allowed to lead. Although my experience isn't as extensive, this silent response reminded me of when the angel Gabriel immediately silenced Zechariah's mouth in Luke 1:20 because he didn't believe. Instead of the angel silencing my mouth, the Holy Spirit quickly quieted me from reacting. I noticed in the Gospels that angels appeared to God's chosen to execute his word as confirmation. The Holy Spirit is Christ's confirmation to me because I could not see in the spirit without his authority and power.

My husband confirmed God's word, but his words at times brings the fear of judgment upon me if I do not follow the leading of the Holy Spirit. If I ignore the Holy Spirit, the presence of God will depart and leave me to my own unwise mind. When Jesus ascended, he said he would send the comforter, the Holy Spirit to those that believed (John 14:26). The Holy Spirit was convicting me based on my husband's words. It wasn't just a negative

criticism. It was a correction in love by the spirit of God. Sometimes God's corrections do not feel good, but I knew he was right. If I didn't listen, I would have failed the test and started operating out of the reactive emotions and aggressiveness to defend myself or call attention to his wrong doings. I remained quiet, and my thoughts began to respond in my mind, "you do it too", "what makes you better than me", "who are you to judge" which were still a form of deflecting from the truth that was reflecting from his spirit. I had to bring those thoughts under captivity through the word of God (2 Corinthians 10:5). In other words, I had to arrest the 3 thoughts that were running around in my mind. How did I take them captive? First, my mouth was closed by the spirit to allow silence to take the place of my words then the word began to work on my thought by saying what fruit would you like to produce in this situation. In order to produce peace, I had to let go of the thoughts and allow peace and humility to take its place. God was

speaking to me through his words, and if I did not hear with my spiritual ears this battle in my mind would have blinded me to my own short falls of judging people inaccurately.

I had to verbally let him know he was right without attitude. I had to answer him from a place of love because I was being corrected not chastised. I had no tangible or intangible reason to judge the person's life and decisions. Instead of addressing fruit of "judging" which comes from a root of rebellion towards God, I wanted to attack his behavior which would have displayed the fruit of "strife" in me, which was not of God, but rebellion against the spirit of God design to divide and dominate the person and situation. I began to listen to the spirit behind his voice, not the words that may ring negative to my ear, and not the behaviors that may not appear as I would like them too, but what the spirit was saying to me at that moment. I felt the emotions rising in me to latch out. This is one of the

reasons why the Holy Spirit is so important. The Holy Spirit keeps me grounded and constantly on the path of correction from my fallen sin nature instead of deflecting and not correcting my behavior. The battle was internal instead of external. I was killing my flesh. The flesh always wants to be in control of the spirit wherever positioned, but when I let the King of King into my life the flesh must submit and the spirit of division, strife, and separation departs.

Chapter 1

Division, Strife, & Separation

According to Genesis 4:7, sin is waiting at the door to desire me, but I must rule over it. The same as Satan is ready to sift me as wheat (Luke 22:31). Not submitting my attitude and behaviors to Christ, was the major doors opened for division, strife and separation from God. This was my life before I was born again in 2013, but I thought I was operating in the name of the Lord. I was a hypocrite as a Christian. My faith had not been fully put to the test. I didn't realize that I was testing my own spirit by the spirit as stated in 1 John 4. After redemption, I had to be processed through sanctification, purging and purification. Without the Holy Spirit, I would have remained in the vicious cycle



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of judging which was developed by my own fallen sin nature because God is good, and his original intentions for my life are good. Just like he sent the Laws of Moses, he sent Jesus as our law to follow. Christ will correct me through the conviction of the Holy Spirit before he brings judgment into my life. Sometimes mercy looked like judgment, but grace and truth were with me during the mercy God extended to me so I could endure the trials and tribulations. It's not my opinion when following God's word. It's a command for me to obey.

As the head of the household, this is what my husband was showing me when he was correcting me. God disciplines and corrects those he loves according to Proverbs 3:12 and Hebrew 12:6. My husband was right, so I had to submit to Christ and the rebellious behavior within me had to flee. Divorce is an example of how my heart was hardened. The divorce was never about our problems. It was about my submission to Christ. If I would have submitted to Christ during our battles

regardless of what I felt, I would have remained a wife and mother in agape love until God's timing and the coming of Christ. I didn't submit because I didn't know the spirit of Christ at the time which is why a certificate of divorce was allowed by God. I was operating out of religion, and not the pure spirit of God. I had spots and blemishes that needed to be cleaned, and I had to travel down an unknown road with help from God.

Instead of getting upset, I had to let go because God provided me with a second chance to serve him. I can remember when I met my current husband, he stated to me, "You are judgmental". What he said hurt because deep down inside, I felt he was right. I searched the scriptures and found Matthew 7:1-6 and Luke 6:37-42. I was guilty in many aspects according to scripture, so I had to repent and turn from this behavior. **I could not cast a stone at him when I had a log in my eye.** The definition of judging in these scriptures according to the Strong's Concordance is based on the word *krínō*

(1). Based on the definition, I **decided mentally** to **judge** and **conclude** with my own opinion about a person (1). My opinion was not driven by God, but of my own merit which placed me in the seat of judgment. I was the judge condemning someone based on my own self-destructive behaviors. God or Christ are the only two sitting in the judgment seat according to 2 Corinthians 5:10 which states, “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad” (NIV) and Romans 14:10-12 which states, “You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you treat them with contempt? For we will all stand before God’s judgment seat. It is written: “‘As surely as I live,’ says the Lord, ‘every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God’”. So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God” (NIV).

I could not afford to deflect any longer because Christ was dealing with me, and I couldn't harden my heart. I had to correct my behavior immediately with the help of the Holy Spirit. During the process, my flesh was not happy. My flesh was weak, but the word was stronger. The word guided me through while putting my emotions, attitude and behaviors in alignment. This is what it looked like for me to submit to Christ with my husband.

The other scripture that my behavior was reverences was Ephesians 5:22-23 which states, "Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything" (NKJV). As I finalize this book on March 24, 2020, I realized when I took the Women on The Path (WOTP) discipleship class in 2008 I was being "Reverent in

Behavior” to my husband [\(2\)](#). Although I thought I was being “Reverent in Behavior” in my first marriage, it did not take root in the environment. The seeds were being sown during the class studies, but it took over 10 years for the seed to be watered and grow into what God originally intended. This is how God’s Kingdom works. The seed is sown. It was up to the right time for God to water and give the increase in my spirit. In my current marriage, the seeds took root and is growing to produce the fruit of the spirit that I need for the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus said, “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing” (John 15:5, NKJV).

Chapter 2

Correct Not Deflect

Deflecting is a way to get the problem off me and on to the messenger. My husband was a messenger during this moment in time, and I had to not harden my heart against the message. God will relay a message through a person, place, thing, event, or anything to correct a wrong turn and get me back on track. In this case, God used my husband. It states in 2 Timothy 3:16-17, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work" (NKJV). I had to repent and turn from making personal judgments about people without knowing the true facts surrounding their life and where they may be in their walk with God. Even if I knew someone very closely, it is not a good idea to talk about them negatively because it

damages my right standing with God and it damages the authenticity of my integrity and character. God uses the good and evil to keep me on the right path. When evil was present,

I had to face it with the good in me (Psalms 34:14). The exchange of good in the face of evil was like a game of checkers. When evil made a move, good made a move, and it will continue until the



Figure 1 Checkerboard diagram

King comes. This is something that can only be seen in the spirit realm. In order to be crowned, I had to finish my moves as illustrated in the Figure 1 Checkerboard diagram (4). I had to quickly correct this type of behavior by repenting and turning. Turning means to never do it again and pray for the person when I see this type of behavior. God will allow me to repeat this type of behavior until I get it right internally.

At times, I would feel guilty because it is so easy to listen to people slander others instead of taking it to the throne of God and pray for them to be delivered from being a slanderer and judge (Romans 1:29-31, James 4:11). If I tried to correct them in love, I would be ridiculed. I never give my opinion to people unless they ask because I am met with ridicule when I offer advice. Even when the person is wrong for ridiculing me, they have no consequences for their actions, nor do they see themselves as wrong. I had to understand that Christ is not disciplining them. He disciplines me (Heb. 12:4-13 BSB) because he needs for me to continue to stay on the straight and narrow path for the Kingdom of Heaven. They have already chosen their broad path, and their assignment was to get me off my narrow path.

Chapter 3

Fruit of Self-Control

My correction also allowed me to submit to the fruit of self-control so the fruit of peace could rest within me. When I can control the words I say, peace allows me to think before I speak so my words do not create strife. The opposite of strife is peace which is what I needed. I thanked God for the correction because it was a habit that I had against this person for years based on their behavior and actions. Although I was speaking from the truth I saw, it did not include their opinion or the Holy Spirit which is judging. This was one of my old habits trying to creep back into my life. Christ took my remembrance back to the Adulterous Woman who was caught in the very act of sin (John 8:1-8 CSB). He did not condemn her, but he told her to go and sin no more. Neither did the men surrounding her condemn her because they walked away without throwing a stone. This is

how he treated me today. Although I was operating in an act of judging, I had no right. Christ did not judge my flesh. He judged my spirit immediately because I was not operating out of the Spirit of Christ. I was not producing any of the 9 fruit of the Spirit by talking about someone negatively. My heart was heavy, and Christ was giving me a chance to repent and turn to move back into right standing. Just because I was saved didn't mean I didn't still have sin in my life that had to be purged. I could not cast a stone at others when Christ has given me a second chance to be redeemed to a new life and rolled away the stone for me not to cast at anyone. We have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23, NIV). My roll is to help others to focus on God's will for their personal soul to be saved and covered by the blood of Jesus Christ.

My lesson from the encounter was **Repent and Don't Cast the Stone**. In the Lessons Learned section, I wrote

the steps I took within two days to ensure I had scriptures in place for judging so it wouldn't happen again.

Lessons Learned

Lesson 1: I listened intently to what he was saying.

Lesson 2: I did not respond until he was finished.

Lesson 3: I got quiet and said nothing no matter how it hurt or no matter how much I wanted to respond or defend myself.

Lesson 4: I had to quiet my mind from acting on my emotions.

Note: If I would had reacted with my emotions, the test would have failed, and I would have repeated this situation again until I passed and matured in this area of judging.

Lesson 5: I waited for the Holy Spirit's response which are these lessons.

Note: The Holy Spirit does not respond in confusion, strife, or any type of contention within me. The Holy Spirit will be quiet until I get into a posture of forgiveness, prayer and peace.

Lesson 6: I repented and turned from the behavior in my heart not to repeat it again.

Lesson 7: I developed and wrote my experience to keep me accountable and true to Christ.

Scriptures

Genesis 4:7

Psalms 34:14

Proverbs 3:12

Matthew 7:1-6

John 8:1-8

John 14:26

John 15:5, NKJV

Luke 1:20

Luke 6:37-42

Luke 22:31

Romans 1:29-31

Romans 3:23, NIV

Romans 14:10

2 Corinthians 5:10

2 Corinthians 10:5

Ephesian 5:22-23

2 Timothy 3:16-17, NKJV

Hebrew 12:4-13, BSB

Hebrew 12:6

James 4:11

1 John 4

Source References

(1) Blue Letter Bible: The KJV translates Strong's Definition G2919 in the following manner:
κρίνω krínō, kree'-no; properly, to distinguish, i.e. decide (mentally or judicially); by implication, to try, condemn, punish: —avenge, conclude, condemn, damn, decree, determine, esteem, judge, go to (sue at the) law, ordain, call in question, sentence to, think.
<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strong=G2919&t=NKJV>

(2) Woman on the Path (WOTP) Discipleship Manual.
2008. New Birth Missionary Baptist Church. Lithonia, Georgia, 30058.

(3) Bible References

Berean Study Bible (BSB):
<https://bereanbible.com/bsb.pdf>

Blue Letter Bible: <https://www.blueletterbible.org>

Christian Standard Bible (CSB): <https://csbible.com/>

New King James Version (NKJV):
www.biblegateway.com

(4) Checkerboard diagram:

<https://www.onlinelabels.com/clip-art/Checkers-Board-116830.htm>



Figure 2 Checkerboard diagram