

STONES

REMEMBERED. RELEASED. REJECTED.



*While buying and using a baby monitor is an act of love, the monitor itself was actually born in 1932 out of something Eugene McDonald, Jr. couldn't stand — the thought of having his newborn baby girl kidnapped as *Charles Lindbergh's baby had been. McDonald, head of General Electric, challenged GE's engineers to come up with a way he could hear what was going on in the baby's room at night. Five years later, in 1937, the "Radio Nurse" entered the public marketplace. Since then, sales have continued to escalate, as has technology, with Bluetooth, video, oxygen, and heart rate monitoring; there's even a baby translator app to tell you what your baby's cries are really saying. And it all started because of something one man couldn't stand....*

**Charles Lindbergh made the first solo / first non-stop TransAtlantic flight from New York to Paris in 1927.*

—mentalfloss.com

"Remember the second law of physics? Two objects cannot occupy the same place at the same time.... Your thoughts are objects too. You can't see them, but thoughts exist.... And thoughts have a mass of their own. Effectively they're objects. And two thoughts cannot occupy the same space at the same time." You can't judge someone and love them at the same time. Period.

— psychotactics.com

The First Stone

So when they continued asking Him, He lifted up Himself, and said unto them, "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her" (John 8:7 KJV).

Intro: Many times a Vision or Mission in life comes from what you can't stand.

And the Lord said, "I have surely seen the affliction of My people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows" (Exodus 3:7 KJV).

A Compassionless Church full of Judgment is what I can't stand – and neither can God.

- I have seen the lives destroyed by judgment in the church.
- I have heard the cry of those who have suffered and been driven away because of compassionless judgment in the church.
- I know the sorrow of being judged, condemned and sentenced.

7 Steps to a Judgment-Free Life

1. Love

"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" (Romans 14:10 NIV).

- A. The presence of judgment almost always guarantees an absence of love.
- B. God loves us, so He corrects us. Judgment condemns us and then punishes us.
- C. You can't judge someone and love them at the same time.
- D. I'm called to love them. God's called to judge them.

2. Help

"Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. For you will be treated as you treat others. The standard you use in judging is the standard by which you will be judged. And why worry about a speck in your friend's eye when you have a log in your own? How can you think of saying to your friend, 'Let me help you get rid of that speck in your

“Get Off Your High Horse!”

Meaning — Stop Being So Self-Righteous & Smug!

This term first showed up somewhere around the year 1380, as cited in John Wyclif's *English Works*:

Ye emperour... made hym & his
cardenals ride in reed on hye ors.

The world's military and political powers have long chosen to ride on the tallest, strongest steeds they could find. This elevated them above the commoners they paraded through, giving them self-proclaimed superiority – which led people to begin using the phrase metaphorically for someone acting out their “high-ness” over others.

By contrast, King David – a man after God's own heart (Acts 13:22) – rode a mule, as did all of his sons (2 Samuel 13:29). When it was time to anoint Solomon as successor-king, David even sent his own mule for Solomon to ride on (1 Kings 1:33-40).

And Jesus, as He rode into Jerusalem – the King of kings and Lord of lords – did not mount the most expensive, impressive, tallest, most powerful steed in all of Judea. Instead, He rode the colt of a donkey, humbly offering Himself as the ultimate Friend and Savior of sinners (Matthew 21:1-10).

How about you?

Are you sometimes on that proverbial high horse?

Or are you, as a child of the King, riding among others on the humblest of beasts – loving, helping, praying, sharing and living Jesus Christ with everyone around you?



This model of Genghis Khan is currently the tallest equestrian statue in the world, standing 130 feet high (not including the museum building beneath it). Talk about being on your high horse!

eye,' when you can't see past the log in your own eye?" (Matthew 7:1-4 NLT).

- A. Ever notice that people who judge almost never help, and people who help almost never judge?
- B. Judgment creates a line. The line is labeled “better than” or “smarter than” or “more righteous than” the person who needs help.
- C. The Christian purpose of stepping into someone else's world is not to judge someone, but to *help* them.

3. Humble yourself

“Dear brothers and sisters, if another believer is overcome by some sin, you who are godly should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself” Galatians 6:1 NLT).

- A. Judgment is never grounded in humility (As in, “Oh my, I'm also a mess. Let's figure this out together.)
- B. Judgment is grounded in arrogance.
- C. Very few people get judged into life change. Many people get loved into it.

4. Pray

- A. We rarely pray for the people we judge.
- B. You can't pray for someone you judge because you're actually not *for* them.
- C. It's impossible to judge someone and truly pray for them at the same time.

5. Evangelize

- A. People run *from* people who judge them. They run *to* people who love them. The Judgmental Gospel is one that few people are interested in.

“Or do you show contempt for the riches of His kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?” (Romans 2:4 NIV).

6. Never forget where you came from and how imperfect you are.

“Don't you see how wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can't you see that His kindness is intended to turn you from your sin?” (Romans 2:4 NLT).

7. Don't lose God's favor and blessings by judging His servant.

“You may think you can condemn such people, but you are just as bad, and you have no excuse! When you say they are wicked and should be punished, you are condemning yourself, for you who judge others do these very same things. And we know that God, in His justice, will punish anyone who does such things” (Romans 2:1-2 NLT).