

Judge Rightly

Text: John 7:24

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church

Elkin, NC

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INTRODUCTION - Prov. 14:34

A nation cannot be righteous apart from righteous people living righteously.

According to Jesus in Mt. 5:1-16, when God's people live righteously, they become salt and light.

As salt and light, God's people must choose what is right—that is, what is good, proper, or just. Our decisions must align with God's word and will.

I. BY WHAT STANDARD ARE BELIEVERS TO MAKE THEIR DECISIONS?

1. The Christians' absolute standard is the Word of God. The Baptist Faith and Message 2000 reflects this truth. "The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation."
2. The Bible is the standard of faith and duty. It is not just a book but a compass that guides our lives and decisions.

II. ACCORDING TO SCRIPTURE, HOW MUST CHRISTIANS MAKE THEIR DECISIONS? (John 7:24).

1. One judges (chooses) not according to appearance but with righteous judgment.
2. We make our decisions based on facts, not on appearance.
3. Several critical issues are essential to Faith-based voters.
 - (1) Life & Abortion
 - (2) Marriage, Family, and Society
 - (3) Education
 - (4) 2nd Amendment
 - (5) Support of Israel
 - (6) First Amendment rights