

Wednesday, January 27

Be sure to celebrate the feast of St. Thomas Aquinas tomorrow! (He's my Confirmation patron.)

Reading for Friday:
Matt 8:23-27

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ftBnwfcogJQ>

Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get.

Jesus is not not not not not not telling us that we cannot determine that a given act is right or wrong; we can and should make that sort of judgment. What He is is is is is is telling us is not to make judgments about people.

When you see someone doing something wrong, or something wrong is done to you, be as merciful as possible toward the person who did it. Do your best to assign to him good motives. Even if you can't do that, remember that you're a sinner too!

Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.

QUESTION

What figure of speech is Jesus using?

Metaphor

What is the point of this metaphor?

Do not give dogs what is holy; and do not throw your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under foot and turn to attack you.

Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For every one who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

Or what man of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him! So whatever you wish that men would do to you, do so to them; for this is the law and the prophets.

Enter by the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is easy, that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard, that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thorns, or figs from thistles? So, every sound tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears evil fruit. sound tree cannot bear evil fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus you will know them by their fruits.

“Not every one who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you evildoers.’”

And now, the moment you've all been waiting for!

One lucky contestant is about to be chosen to tell us about today's reading assignment!

1. Jesus uses a simile in this passage. What is it?
2. What does Jesus want people to learn from what He said?

Super Extra Bonus Question!

3. Why were people astonished at the teaching of Jesus?

Super Extra Bonus Answer!

for he taught them as one who had authority

<http://vimeo.com/3829682>

Obviously (I hope) it's not simply that Jesus *sounds* like He knows what He's talking about. Why is it that Jesus is able to teach with special authority?