

Thought for the day - Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023

by Revd John Ohen

Judgment.

It will help if we ask ourselves how judgemental we are because we do make judgements about many things and different situations and people. However, this is different from being judgmental. The problem is that we tend to judge others by mere appearance (as in John 7. 24). We can also have double standards, example one we apply to our self and our friends and one we apply to others and our enemies. However, the truth be said we do judge others and we must stop that. We must stop doing it because we know that it is wrong. The wise men and women of old said that it is wrong, and we must stop it. The Chinese philosopher Confucius said that “It is not for others not to appreciate your abilities, should trouble you but your failure to appreciate theirs. In many cases we keep our vices behind us while we keep that of others in front of us. A good American saying is that we must not judge a man until we have walked a mile in his shoes.

Jesus thought us not to judge others, because in judging others we may be judged. The Bible teaches us that if we don't stop being judgmental, we will be judged with the measure we dish out. Instead, we are encouraged to be more forgiving, compassionate, and less judgmental. Prophet Ezekiel (7. 27) said that. “I will do to them after their way, and according to their own judgment will I judge them”. Prophet Daniel said that “you have been weighed on the scales and found wanting”. Thomas Kempis also said that on the day of judgement, we shall not be asked what we have read but what we have done, not how well we have spoken but how well we have lived.

Bible Passage. Matthew 7. 1 – 5.

Prayer. Lord help me to do to others as I would like them to do unto me. To love with charity, kindness, and mercy of Christ.