## A Word Study on "Judging"

#### THE ROOT MEANING OF JUDGMENT

This Greek verb is used in Scripture to describe the scope and action of judgment.

*Krino* means: to pass judgment on; to sentence; to mentally or judicially condemn; to conclude; to decide; to determine.

#### THE ROOT MEANING OF DISCERNMENT

The following Greek verbs describe the scope and action of discernment.

Dokimazo means: to test; to examine; to interpret; to discover; to approve; to prove; to demonstrate.

Anakrino means: to ask questions; to examine; to evaluate; to scrutinize; to investigate; to search out.

Diakrino means: to make a distinction (between persons); to weigh thoroughly each part

#### **CATEGORIES OF USAGES**

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### God as Judge

John 3:18 "He who believes in Him is not judged [Gr.krino]; he who does not believe has been judged [Gr. krino] already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."

Acts 7:7'AND WHATEVER NATION TO WHICH THEY WILL BE IN BONDAGE I MYSELF WILL JUDGE [Gr. krino],' said God, 'AND AFTER THAT THEY WILL COME OUT AND SERVE ME IN THIS PLACE.'

Romans 3:4 May it never be! Rather, let God be found true, though every man be found a liar, as it is written, "THAT YOU MAY BE JUSTIFIED IN YOUR WORDS, AND PREVAIL WHEN YOU ARE JUDGED [Gr. krino]."

Romans 3:6 "May it never be! For otherwise, how will God judge [Gr. krino] the world?"

Romans 3:7"But if through my lie the truth of God abounded to His glory, why am I also still being judged [Gr. krino] as a sinner?"

Hebrews 10:30 "For we know Him who said, " VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY." And again, "THE LORD WILL JUDGE [Gr. krino] HIS PEOPLE."

Hebrews 13:4 "Marriage is to be held in honor among all, and the marriage bed is to be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge [Gr. krino]."

1 Peter 2:23 "and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges [Gr. krino] righteously;"

1 Peter 4:6 "For the gospel has for this purpose been preached even to those who are dead, that though they are judged [Gr. krino] in the flesh as men, they may live in the spirit according to the will of God."

#### The nature of Christ's First Advent

John 3:17 "For God did not send the Son into the world to judge [Gr. krino] the world, but that the world might be saved through Him."

John 5:30 "I can do nothing on My own initiative. As I hear, I judge [Gr. krino]; and My judgment [Gr. krisis] is just, because I do not seek My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me."

John 8:15 "You judge [Gr. krino] according to the flesh; I am not judging [Gr. krino] anyone."

John 8:16 "But even if I do judge [Gr. krino], My judgment is true; for I am not alone in it, but I and the Father who sent Me."

John 8:26 "I have many things to speak and to judge [Gr. krino] concerning you, but He who sent Me is true; and the things which I heard from Him, these I speak to the world."

John 8:50 "But I do not seek My glory; there is One who seeks and judges [Gr. krino]"

John 12:47" If anyone hears My sayings and does not keep them, I do not judge [Gr. krino] him; for I did not come to judge [Gr. krino] the world, but to save the world."

Luke 12:14 "But He said to him, "Man, who appointed Me a judge [Gr. kritees] or arbitrator over you?"

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#### The nature of Christ's Second Advent

John 5:22 "For not even the Father judges [Gr. krino] anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son"

John 12:48 "He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges [Gr.krino] him; the word I spoke is what will judge [Gr. krino] him at the last day".

Acts 10:42 "And He ordered us to preach to the people, and solemnly to testify that this is the One who has been appointed by God as Judge [Gr. kritees] of the living and the dead."

1 Peter 4:5 "but they will give account to Him who is ready to judge [Gr. krino] the living and the dead."

Revelations 11:18 "And the nations were enraged, and Your wrath came, and the time came for the dead to be judged [Gr. krino], and the time to reward Your bond-servants the prophets and the

saints and those who fear Your name, the small and the great, and to destroy those who destroy the earth."

Revelations 19:11 "And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges [Gr. krino] and wages war."

### **Tribulation Judgment**

Revelations 16:5 "And I heard the angel of the waters saying, "Righteous are You, who are and who were, O Holy One, because You judged [Gr. krino] these things;"

Revelations 18:8 "For this reason in one day her plagues will come, pestilence and mourning and famine, and she will be burned up with fire; for the Lord God who judges [Gr. krino] her is strong."

Revelations 19:2"BECAUSE HIS JUDGMENTS ARE TRUE AND RIGHTEOUS; for He has judged [Gr. krino] the great harlot who was corrupting the earth with her immorality, and HE HAS AVENGED THE BLOOD OF HIS BOND-SERVANTS ON HER."

### Satan Judged

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John 16:11 "and concerning judgment [Gr. krisis], because the ruler of this world has been judged [Gr. krino]."

### Great White Throne Judgment (for unbelievers only)

Matthew 5:21,22 "You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment [Gr. krisis]. <sup>22</sup>But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment [Gr. krisis]. Again, anyone who says to his brother, 'Raca' is answerable to the Sanhedrin. But anyone who says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of hell."

Matthew 10:15 "Truly I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment [Gr. krisis] than for that city."

Matthew 11:22 "Nevertheless I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the day of judgment [Gr. krisis] than for you."

Matthew 11:24 "Nevertheless I say to you that it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment [Gr. krisis], than for you."

Acts 17:31 "because He has fixed a day in which He will judge [Gr. krino] the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."

Romans 2:16 on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge [Gr. krino] the secrets of men through Christ Jesus."

1 Corinthians 5:13 "But those who are outside, God judges. [Gr. krino] REMOVE THE WICKED MAN FROM AMONG YOURSELVES."

- 2 Thessalonians 2:12 "in order that they all may be judged [Gr. krino] who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness."
- 2 Timothy 4:1 "I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge [Gr. krino] the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom:"

Revelations 20:12 "And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged [Gr. krino] from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds."

Revelations 20:13 "And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged [Gr. krino], every one of them according to their deeds."

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#### **Future Judgments**

1 Corinthians 6:2"Or do you not know that the saints will judge [Gr. krino] the world? If the world is judged [Gr.krino] by you, are you not competent to constitute the smallest law courts?"

1 Corinthians 6:3 "Do you not know that we will judge [Gr. krino] angels? How much more matters of this life?"

### God's present judgment (discipline) of believers

1 Corinthians 11:32 "But when we are judged [Gr. krino], we are disciplined by the Lord so that we will not be condemned along with the world."

1 Corinthians 4:3,4 "I care very little if I am judged [Gr. anakrino] by you or by any human court; indeed, I do not even judge [Gr. anakrino] myself. 4My conscience is clear, but that does not make me innocent. It is the Lord who judges [Gr. anakrino] me." NIV

### God's future judgment of believers (Bema Seat)

Romans 14:10 But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we will all stand before the judgment [Gr. beema] seat of God.

- 1 Corinthians 4:5 "Therefore do not go on passing judgment [Gr. krino] before the time, but wait until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of men's hearts; and then each man's praise will come to him from God."
- 2 Corinthians 5:10 "For we must all appear before the judgment [Gr. beema] seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad."
- 2 Timothy 4:8"in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge [Gr. kritees], will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing."

Hebrews 12:23 "to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge [Gr. kritees] of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect,"

1 Peter 1:17 "If you address as Father the One who impartially judges [Gr. krino] according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay on earth;"

### Paul was on trial

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Acts 4:9 "if we are on trial [Gr. anakrino] today for a benefit done to a sick man, as to how this man has been made well,"

Acts 23:6 But perceiving that one group were Sadducees and the other Pharisees, Paul began crying out in the Council, "Brethren, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees; I am on trial [Gr. krino] for the hope and resurrection of the dead!"

Acts 24:8 "By examining [Gr. anakrino] him yourself you will be able to learn the truth about all these charges we are bringing against him." NIV

Acts 24:21 other than for this one statement which I shouted out while standing among them, 'For the resurrection of the dead I am on trial [Gr. krino] before you today."

Acts 25:9,10 But Festus, wishing to do the Jews a favor, answered Paul and said, "Are you willing to go up to Jerusalem and stand trial [Gr. krino] before me on these charges?" 10 But Paul said, "I am standing before Caesar's tribunal, where I ought to be tried. I have done no wrong to the Jews, as you also very well know.

Acts 25:20 "Being at a loss how to investigate such matters, I asked whether he was willing to go to Jerusalem and there stand trial [Gr. krino] on these matters."

Acts 25:25 "But I found that he had committed nothing worthy of death; and since he himself appealed to the Emperor, I decided [Gr. krino] to send him."

Acts 26:6 "And now I am standing trial [Gr. krino] for the hope of the promise made by God to our fathers:"

Acts 28:18 "And when they had examined [Gr. anakrino] me, they were willing to release me because there was no ground for putting me to death."

1 Corinthians 9:3 "My defense to those who examine [Gr. anakrino] me is this:"

#### Others on trial

Acts 12:19 After Herod had a thorough search made for him and did not find him, he cross-examined [Gr. anakrino] the guards and ordered that they be executed." NIV

#### Jesus judged before crucifixion

Luke 23:14 and said to them, "You brought this man to me as one who incites the people to rebellion, and behold, having examined [Gr. anakrino] Him before you, I have found no guilt in this man regarding the charges which you make against Him.

John 18:31 So Pilate said to them, "Take Him yourselves, and judge [Gr. krino] Him according to your law." The Jews said to him, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death,"

Acts 3:13 "The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified His servant Jesus, the one whom you delivered and disowned in the presence of Pilate, when he had **decided** [Gr. *krino*] to release Him."

Acts 13:27 For those who live in Jerusalem, and their rulers, recognizing neither Him nor the utterances of the prophets which are read every Sabbath, fulfilled these by condemning [Gr. krino] Him."

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#### We are told to judge

*Proverbs 31:9* "Open your mouth, **judge** *righteously*, And defend the rights of the afflicted and needy".

Luke 7:34 "Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "You have judged [Gr. krino] correctly."

Luke 12:57"And why do you not even on your own initiative judge [Gr. krino] what is right?"

John 7:24 "Do not judge [Gr. krino] according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment."

Acts 4:19 But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to give heed to you rather than to God, you be the judge [Gr. krino].

Acts 16:15 And when she and her household had been baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged [Gr. krino] me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay." And she prevailed upon us.

Acts 17:11 "Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining [Gr. anakrino] the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so."

Romans 2:18 "And know and understand His will and discerningly approve [Gr. dokimazo] the better things and have a sense of what is vital, because you are instructed by the Law." AMP

1 Corinthians 2:15 "The spiritual man makes judgments [Gr. anakrino] about all things, but he himself is not subject to any man's judgment." NIV

1 Corinthians 5:3 "For I, on my part, though absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged [Gr. krino] him who has so committed this, as though I were present."

- 1 Corinthians 5:12 "For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not judge [Gr. krino] those who are within the church?"
- 1 Corinthians 5:6" | say this to shame you. Is it possible that there is nobody among you wise enough to judge [Gr. diakrino] a dispute between believers?" NIV
- 1 Corinthians 10:15" speak as to wise men; you judge [Gr. krino] what I say."
- 1 Corinthians 11:13 "Judge [Gr. krino] for yourselves: is it proper for a woman to pray to God with her head uncovered?"
- 1 Corinthians 14:24 "But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an ungifted man enters, he is convicted by all, he is called to account [Gr. anakrino] by all."
- 1 Corinthians 14:29 "Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others pass judgment [Gr. diakrino]."
- Philippians 1:10 so that you may be able to discern [Gr. dokimazo] what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ." NIV
- 1 Thessalonians 5:21 "But examine [Gr. anakrino] everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good."
- James 2:12 "So speak and so act as those who are to be judged [Gr. krino] by the law of liberty."
- 1 John 4:1 "My dear friends, don't believe everything you hear. Carefully weigh and examine [Gr. anakrino] what people tell you. Not everyone who talks about God comes from God. There are a lot of lying preachers loose in the world." MSG

## **Decisions requiring discernment**

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Acts 15:19 "Therefore it is my judgment [Gr. krino] that we do not trouble those who are turning to God from among the Gentiles,"

Acts 16:4 "Now while they were passing through the cities, they were delivering the decrees which had been decided [Gr. krino] upon by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem, for them to observe."

Acts 20:16 "For Paul had decided [Gr. krino] to sail past Ephesus so that he would not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hurrying to be in Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost."

Acts 21:25 "But concerning the Gentiles who have believed, we wrote, having decided [Gr. krino] that they should abstain from meat sacrificed to idols and from blood and from what is strangled and from fornication."

Acts 27:1 "When it was decided [Gr. krino] that we would sail for Italy, they proceeded to deliver Paul and some other prisoners to a centurion of the Augustan cohort named Julius."

Romans 14:5 "One person regards [Gr. krino] one day above another, another regards [Gr.krino] every day alike. Each person must be fully convinced in his own mind."

1 Corinthians 2:2 "For I determined [Gr. krino] to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified."

1 Corinthians 7:37 "But he who stands firm in his heart, being under no constraint, but has authority over his own will, and has decided [Gr. krino] this in his own heart, to keep his own virgin daughter, he will do well."

1 Corinthians 11:13 "Judge [Gr. krino] for yourselves: is it proper for a woman to pray to God with her head uncovered?"

2 Corinthians 2:1 "But I determined [Gr. krino] this for my own sake, that I would not come to you in sorrow again."

*Titus 3:12* "When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, make every effort to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have **decided** [Gr. *krino*] to spend the winter there."

#### Lack of Discernment

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*Matthew 16:3* "And in the morning, 'There will be a storm today, for the sky is red and threatening.' Do you know how to **discern** [Gr. *diakrino*] the appearance of the sky, but cannot **discern** the signs of the times?"

Luke 12:56 "You hypocrites! You know how to analyze [Gr. dokimazo] the appearance of the earth and the sky, but why do you not analyze this present time?"

1 Corinthians 2:14 "The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned [Gr. anakrino]." NIV

### Self Examination (self judgment)

Acts 13:46 Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and said, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken to you first; since you repudiate it and judge [Gr. krino] yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles.

Romans 14:22 "The faith which you have, have as your own conviction before God. Happy is he who does not condemn [Gr. krino] himself in what he approves."

1 Corinthians 6:4 "So if you have law courts dealing with matters of this life, do you appoint them as judges [Gr. krino] who are of no account in the church?"

1 Corinthians 11:28,29 "But a man must examine [Gr. dokimazo] himself, and in so doing he is to eat of the bread and drink of the cup. <sup>29</sup> For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself if he does not judge [Gr. diakrino] the body rightly".

1 Corinthians 11:31 "But if we judged [Gr. diakrino] ourselves rightly, we would not be judged [Gr. diakrino]."

2 Corinthians 13:5 "Test [Gr. dokimazo] yourselves to make sure you are solid in the faith. Don't drift along taking everything for granted. Give yourselves regular checkups. You need firsthand evidence, not mere hear say, that Jesus Christ is in you. Test it out. If you fail the test, do something about." MSG

Galatians 6:4 "But let every person carefully scrutinize and examine and test [Gr. dokimazo] his own conduct and his own work. He can then have the personal satisfaction and joy of doing something commendable [in itself alone] without [resorting to] boastful comparison with his neighbor."

AMP

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### The standard of judgment (proper & improper)

John 7:24 "Do not judge [Gr. krino] according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment [Gr. krisis]."

John 8:15 "You judge [Gr. krino] according to the flesh, I am not judging anyone."

John 7:51 "Our Law does not judge [Gr. krino] a man unless it first hears from him and knows what he is doing, does it?"

John 18:31 So Pilate said to them, "Take Him yourselves, and judge [Gr. krino] Him according to your law." The Jews said to him, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death,"

Acts 23:3 Then Paul said to him, "God is going to strike you, you whitewashed wall! Do you sit to try [Gr. krino] me according to the Law, and in violation of the Law order me to be struck?"

Acts 24:6 "And he even tried to desecrate the temple; and then we arrested him. We wanted to judge [Gr. krino] him according to our own Law."

Romans 2:12 "For all who have sinned without the Law will also perish without the Law, and all who have sinned under the Law will be judged [Gr. krino] by the Law,"

Romans 2:16 on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge [Gr. krino] the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.

1 Corinthians 6:4 "So if you have law courts dealing with matters of this life, do you appoint them as judges [Gr. krino] who are of no account in the church?"

Hebrews 4:12"For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge [Gr. kritikos] the thoughts and intentions of the heart."

1 Peter 1:7 "If you address as Father the One who impartially judges [Gr. krino] according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay on earth;"

Revelations 20:13 "And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged [Gr. krino], every one of them according to their deeds."

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### We are told not to have a judgmental spirit

Matthew 7:1 "Do not judge [Gr. krino, Present imperative] so that you will not be judged".

Matthew 7:2"For in the way you judge [Gr. krino], you will be judged [Gr. krino]; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you".

Luke 6:37 "Do not judge [Gr. krino], and you will not be judged [Gr. krino]; and do not condemn, and you will not be condemned pardon, and you will be pardoned".

John 8:15 "You judge [Gr. krino] according to the flesh; I am not judging [Gr. krino] anyone."

Romans 2:1 "Therefore you have no excuse, everyone of you who passes judgment, for in that which you judge [Gr. krino] another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge [Gr. krino] practice the same things."

Romans 14:3 "The one who eats is not to regard with contempt the one who does not eat, and the one who does not eat is not to judge [Gr. krino] the one who eats, for God has accepted him"

Romans 14:4 "Who are you to judge [Gr. krino] the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls; and he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand."

Romans 14:10 "But you, why do you judge [Gr. krino] your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God."

Romans 14:13 "Therefore let us not judge [Gr. krino] one another anymore, but rather determine [Gr. krino] this-- not to put an obstacle or a stumbling block in a brother's way."

Romans 14:22 "The faith which you have, have as your own conviction before God. Happy is he who does not condemn [Gr. krino] himself in what he approves."

1 Corinthians 4:5 "Therefore do not go on passing judgment [Gr. krino] before the time, but wait until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of men's hearts; and then each man's praise will come to him from God"

1 Corinthians 10:25 "With that as a base to work from, common sense can take you the rest of the way. Eat anything sold at the butcher shop, for instance; you don't have to run an 'idolatry test'[Gr. anakrino] on every item." MSG

1 Corinthians 10:27 "If a nonbeliever invites you to dinner and you feel like going, go ahead and enjoy yourself; eat everything placed before you. It would be both bad manners and bad spirituality to cross-examine [Gr. anakrino] your host on the ethical purity of each course as it is served." MSG

1 Corinthians 10:29 "I mean not your own conscience, but the other man's; for why is my freedom judged [Gr. krino] by another's conscience?"

Colossians 2:16 "Therefore no one is to act as your judge [Gr. krino] in regard to food or drink or in respect to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day."

James 2:4 "have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges [Gr. kritees] with evil motives?"

James 4:11 "Do not speak against one another, brethren. He who speaks against a brother or judges [Gr. *krino*] his brother, speaks against the law and judges [Gr. *krino*] the law; but if you judge [Gr. *krino*] the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge [Gr. *kritees*] of it."

James 4:12 "There is only one Lawgiver and Judge [Gr. kritees], the One who is able to save and to destroy; but who are you who judge [Gr. krino] your neighbor?"

James 5:9 "Do not complain, brethren, against one another, so that you yourselves may not be judged; behold, the Judge [Gr. kritees] is standing right at the door."

## Hypocritical Judgment

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Romans 2:1 Therefore you have no excuse, everyone of you who passes judgment [Gr. krino], for in that which you judge [Gr. krino] another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge [Gr. krino] practice the same things.

Romans 2:3 But do you suppose this, O man, when you pass judgment [Gr. krino] on those who practice such things and do the same yourself, that you will escape the judgment [Gr. krima] of God?

Romans 2:27 "And he who is physically uncircumcised, if he keeps the Law, will he not judge [Gr. krino] you who though having the letter of the Law and circumcision are a transgressor of the Law?"

All Scripture verses from the New American Standard Bible unless otherwise identified.

- Notes -