

John 8:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I have many things to say and to judge of you: but he that sent me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I have heard of him.

Analysis

Jesus indicates He has much more to say in judgment of them, but restrains Himself, speaking only what the Father gives Him to speak. This demonstrates both the severity of their sin (much could be said against them) and Christ's submission to the Father. True prophetic ministry speaks God's word, not personal opinion or vindictive accusation.

Historical Context

The restraint Jesus shows despite their unbelief and hostility demonstrates His mission: He came not to condemn but to save (John 3:17), though judgment results when salvation is rejected.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does Jesus model restraint in speaking judgment?
2. What does it mean to speak only what the Father gives you to speak?

3. When should you exercise restraint in confronting sin?

Interlinear Text

πολλὰ	ἔχω	περὶ	ὑμῶν	λαλεῖν	καὶ	κρίνειν	ἀλλ'	ό
many things	I have	of	you	to say	and	to judge	but	G3588
G4183	G2192	G4012	G5216	G2980	G2532	G2919	G235	
πέμψας	με	ἀληθής	ἐστιν	κάγὼ	α	ῆκουσα	παρ'	
he that sent	me	true	is	and I	which	I have heard	of	
G3992	G3165	G227	G2076	G2504	G3739	G191	G3844	
αὐτοῦ	ταῦτα	λέγω	εἰς	τὸν	κόσμον			
him	those things	speak	to	G3588	the world			
G846	G5023	G3004	G1519		G2889			

Additional Cross-References

John 15:15 (Parallel theme): Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

John 8:40 (Truth): But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham.

John 17:8 (Parallel theme): For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.

John 7:28 (Truth): Then cried Jesus in the temple as he taught, saying, Ye both know me, and ye know whence I am: and I am not come of myself, but he that sent me is true, whom ye know not.

John 16:12 (Parallel theme): I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.

John 7:16 (Parallel theme): Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.

2 Corinthians 1:18 (Truth): But as God is true, our word toward you was not yea and nay.

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