

Matthew 7:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye?

Analysis

Hypocritical offers to help others with small faults while ignoring your own massive faults is absurd and offensive. The 'mote' (speck) versus 'beam' (log) illustrates the grotesque disproportion. How can the blind lead the blind? Only after self-examination and repentance can we humbly help others.

Historical Context

The humorous image of someone with a log protruding from their eye trying to remove a speck from another's eye would have made Jesus's audience laugh while convicting them. Hypocritical religious leaders who imposed heavy burdens on others while exempting themselves exemplified this.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. What log (major sin) in your own life are you ignoring while criticizing specks in others?
2. How can you maintain both honest self-examination and humble concern for others' spiritual wellbeing?

Interlinear Text

ἢ	πῶς	ἐρεῖς	τῷ	ἀδελφῷ	σοῦ	Ἄφες	ἐκβάλω	τὸ
Or	how	wilt thou say	G3588	brother	thine	Let	me pull out	G3588
G2228	G4459	G2046		G80	G4675	G863	G1544	
κάρφος	ἀπὸ	τοῦ	ὀφθαλμοῦ	σοῦ	καὶ	ἰδού,	ἡ	δοκὸς
the mote	out of	G3588	eye	thine	and	behold	G3588	a beam
G2595	G575		G3788	G4675	G2532	G2400		G1385
ἐν	τῷ	ὀφθαλμοῦ	σοῦ					
is in	G3588	eye	thine					
G1722		G3788	G4675					

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