

# Who Made You Judge?

James 4: 11-12

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Series: Practical Christianity

# James 4: 11-12

<sup>11</sup> Do not speak against one another, brethren. He who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks against the law and judges the law; but if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge *of it*. <sup>12</sup> There is *only* one Lawgiver and Judge, the One who is able to save and to destroy; but who are you who judge your neighbor?

# Guilty as Sin!

- Run 'em down!
  - Mindless, thoughtless, careless, critical, derogatory speech against another.
  - Why do we run people down?
- The Truth is No Defense!
  - Negative information, even if true is not fuel for the fiery tongue.

# Proper Judgment and Improper Criticism

- Why is being judgmental or critical wrong?
  - We elevate ourselves above the Bible. V. 11b
  - We elevate ourselves above God. V. 12a.
  - Then we go so far as to deny being critical.
- We must acknowledge our sin!
  - Only God can save and destroy.

# Conclusion

- Rumors, criticizing, backbiting, and gossip are sin, and are so common.
- An untrue criticizing spirit can be devastating to a life.