**Fault Finding**

**Reading: John 9:1-3**

***[1 John 3:4]*** ***Every one who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.***

**read luke 15:25-32** Who did wrong in this story? The answer is obvious… BOTH brothers.

Why or how did the elder [“faithful”] do wrong?

**he was preoccupied with the shortcomings of His Brother [vs 30]**

***(Romans 2:1-3) Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things. {2} But we know that the judgment of God is according to truth against those who practice such things. {3} And do you think this, O man, you who judge those practicing such things, and doing the same, that you will escape the judgment of God?***

***(Matthew 7:1-5) "Judge not, that you be not judged. {2} "For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. {3} "And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? {4} "Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye? {5} "Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.***

The Bible is described as a mirror in which we see ourselves to make the necessary corrections. ***(James 1:22-25) But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. {23} For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; {24} for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. {25} But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.***

***[2 Corinthians 13:5]*** Examine ***yourselves to see whether you are holding to your faith. Test yourselves; Do you not realize that Jesus Christ is in you? Unless indeed you fail to meet the test.***

**EXAMPLE #1** **[1 Timothy 5:13]** Besides ***that, they learn to be idlers, gadding about from house to house, and not only idlers but gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not.***

***(Proverbs 16:27) An ungodly man digs up evil, And it is on his lips like a burning fire.***

***(Proverbs 17:9) He who covers a transgression seeks love, But he who repeats a matter separates friends.***

***(Matthew 18:15-17) "Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. {16} "But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that 'by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.' {17} "And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector.***

**EXAMPLE #2** ***[Ephesians 4:32]* *And be kind to one another tenderhearted, forgiving one another as God in Christ forgave you.***

***[James 1:19]*** ***Be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger***...**[vs 26] *If any one thinks himself to be religious and does not bridle his tongue...his religion is vain.***

**EXAMPLE #3 *(Ephesians 6:1-4) Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. {2} "Honor your father and mother," which is the first commandment with promise: {3} "that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth." {4} And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.***

***(Ephesians 4:26) "Be angry, and do not sin": do not let the sun go down on your wrath,***

***[2 Peter 1:5-6]*** ***Add to your faith virtue, and to virtue knowledge, and to knowledge Temperance*** (self-control).

**EXAMPLE #4**  ***[1 Timothy 4:12]*** ***...Set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love in faith, in purity.***