

Although there certainly are occasions where Christians have behaved with distasteful and embarrassing levels of judgmentalism and hypocrisy, there are many instances where vehement accusations of such conduct are unfounded and unjustly made against Christians. Let us examine this.

Jesus did not tiptoe around when dealing with sin, although some foolishly would have you believe just that. He often confronted it forcefully, particularly with those who were headstrong and resisted repentance. Jesus on numerous occasions gave exceedingly powerful reproofs, called a spade a spade, a sinner a sinner, and a serpent a serpent (Mt 23:33; Jn. 8:44), even if they were his friends or followers (Mt. 16:23). His Apostles subsequently also rightly used unabashed descriptive terms such as “lewd” persons of “a baser sort” (Ac. 17:5) or just “wicked” (2 Th. 3:2; 1 Co. 5:1&15). Sometimes even Christians overlook the *straight-talk* that Jesus and the holy Apostles used. They were also very gentle with so many who were habitual sinners (as a way of life), yet willing to listen and be open to God’s call to change and repent (contrast Mt. 12:20 with Mt. 23:13).

Those whom the Scripture [correctly] calls “blind” (Mt. 13:13; 15:14; Jn. 3:19; 9:39) are already pre-disposed to misunderstand this, and to consequently, misrepresent holding onto values imperfectly as inherently hypocritical. Yet, these same are often selective in applying such accusations only to Christians or those holding contrary positions as themselves. Scripture is not being disingenuous, arrogant or mean when it uses the term “blind.” This is straight-talk. Calling people who are spiritually blind what they truly are may be *politically incorrect*, but it is *spiritually correct*; it is truthful. Scripture does not exchange the truth in order to patronize political correctness within any generation, modern or ancient. Those same blind *accusers* frequently, *intolerantly* and *unfairly judge* and particularly *condemn* Christians, whom they *accuse* of being *intolerant*, *unfair judges*, and arrogant *accusers*. – Now, what term applies to those who condemn others for being what they show themselves actually to be (Ro. 1:22f, esp. 1:32)? – This goes both ways.

It must not be established that to avoid an accusation of arrogance, straight talk must be prohibited. Yet, this is the limited choice to which many insist, Christians must be restricted. A reasonable person can easily see the subterfuge underlying this anti-Christian propaganda, by those who are *intolerant* and *bias* against Christianity.

Christians are held accountable to preach the gospel in love and to teach people of their sins and its eternal consequences. Passive indifference to this weighty mission is equivalent to negligent homicide (Ezk. 3:18). Yet some characterize this mission of mercy as inherently judgmental, or hypocritical if the “rescue worker” is imperfect and, in effect, treat rescue workers as ‘the bad guys.’ Rescue workers are not arrogant for trying to save lives, neither are Christians for trying to save people from eternal destruction. For those who have eyes to see, this is what love looks like.

Attempts to equate *accountability* within the Christian ethic with *arrogance* have no legitimate footing in reason. It is “crooked-talk” as are most attempts to invalidate or evade accountability. - Continued...