

Many fine Christians are unlovely in their condemnation of the things others do with a clear conscience. Let us not fall into the same pit. Let us not be censorious in our attitude toward those who do not agree with us. I believe one of the chief causes of backsliding in the church is due to evil judging and evil speaking. A Christian sees his brother doing things which he believes are wrong. Instead of going to his brother and attempting to set him straight he speaks about it to others. Soon a fire of resentment is set up in his own heart and he is offended at his brother's action. Soon this causes him to backslide and before long others are dragged down too. The entire church today is in an apostate condition because people and especially ministers have failed to denounce and rebuke sin. However we should never judge the motives of others or talk about them. If they are doing something contrary to Scripture it is our duty to speak to them about it. One of John Wesley's Maxims for preaching was "Tell everyone what you think wrong in him, as soon as you may, Make all haste to cast the fire out of your bosom" This is not a Doctrine peculiar to Wesley. I have been told that Roy Brumbaugh is that way and he has been used by the Lord. If you wish to be true to God, you won't be popular with carnal Christians, but you will have the reward of our Lord. Personally I like a man whom I know won't talk behind my back but who will be fearlessly outspoken to me in private if he sees me going wrong. If you are that kind of a minister you will put the fear of God into your congregation, they will not fear you but they will fear your rebuke and they will fear God.