

WHAT THE HECK IS THIS DOING IN HERE?!?

Do not give what is holy to the dogs, and do not throw your pearls before swine, or they will trample them under foot and turn and maul you. Matthew 7:6

Pretty straight forward proverb: don't waste your time offering your whatever are your pearls, or what you consider holy to those who have no idea the value of what you're offering, they'll trample on your message and on you.

To determine with whom to offer our "pearls," requires judging others. How can the proverb mean we're to judge or discern who is worthy of receiving our "pearls" in direct contrast to the previous proverb about not judging?

I mean, don't judge the pig because it cannot appreciate your pearls.

There are other examples in contrast to that interpretation of that proverb:

1. Jesus teaches the disciples that those who follow him will be persecuted, hated, and thrown in prison, and even killed for the sake of the good news. For that to happen, someone's pearls have to be offered, resulting in persecution. Trampling. By pigs! Jesus offered his "pearls" openly, to those who wanted to kill him. Aren't we to do the same?
2. Jesus, himself, threw his pearls of divine love and forgiveness to the soldiers, at the same time they were nailing him to the cross! He, and I love him for this, looks on these "pigs and dogs" with love and compassion. They're killing him and he's telling his father, "They don't know what they're doing. Forgive them."
1. Lastly, God, the Trinity, threw their pearl (of great price, *Jesus*) to the "pigs and dogs" (us) at the incarnation. And what happened? Well, some received his message gladly, others killed him for it. *"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."* Romans 5:8

So, what does it really mean and why is it there?