

God of Justice – Part One

God abhors injustice and apathy toward injustice

Zechariah 8:16-17 - These are the things that ye shall do; Speak ye every man the truth to his neighbour; execute the judgment of truth and peace in your gates: And let none of you imagine evil in your hearts against his neighbour; and love no false oath: for all these are **things that I hate**, saith the LORD.

Proverbs 17:15 - He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both are **abomination to the LORD**.

Isaiah 59:14-15 - And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter. Yea, truth faileth; and he that departeth from evil maketh himself a prey: and the LORD saw it, and **it displeased him that there was no judgment**.

Jeremiah 21:12 - O house of David, thus saith the LORD; Execute judgment in the morning, and deliver him that is spoiled out of the hand of the oppressor, **lest my fury** go out like fire, and burn that none can quench it, because of the evil of your doings.

Human justice vs. God's justice

Human justice is exercised primarily with regard to one's relationships with others. It requires giving others what is rightfully theirs and involves protecting those who would be unjustly treated as well. God demands we exercise justice in business dealings, in courts of law, and in all our daily matters involving others. We are to exercise righteous judgment, in the fear of God within the perimeters God has given to us.

Leviticus 19:15 - Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment: thou shalt not respect the person of the poor, nor honour the person of the mighty: but **in righteousness** shalt thou judge thy neighbour.

2 Samuel 23:3 - The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spake to me, He that ruleth over men **must be just**, ruling in the fear of God.

Micah 6:8 - He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but **to do justly**, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Leviticus 19:35-36 - Ye shall **do no unrighteousness in judgment**, in meteyard, in weight, or in measure. Just balances, just weights, a just ephah, and a just hin, shall ye have: I am the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt.

Jeremiah 9:23-24 - Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, **judgment**, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD.

Unlike man, all God's judgments are perfect and righteous.

Justice is a part of God's nature, but can be seen in His dealings with man.

Deuteronomy 32:4 - He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for **all his ways are judgment**: a God of truth and without iniquity, **just** and **right** is he.

Psalms 33:5 - **He loveth righteousness and judgment**: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.

God's justice requires the penalty for sin to be paid. "It is by the forgiveness of sins that God establishes righteousness, and this is the supreme task of justice. Thus it is that God is at the same time "just" and the justifier of him that hath faith in Jesus." (*The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*) The "just" is synonymous with the "righteous" –those who have been redeemed by the blood of Christ are forgiven, justified.

Nahum 1:3 - The LORD is slow to anger, and great in power, and **will not at all acquit the wicked**: the LORD hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet.

Romans 3:24-28 - Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: **Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation** [payment] through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus. Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

God's children are justly rewarded for their works done on earth and do not escape God's judgment with regard to discipline or works, both good and bad.

Romans 14:12 - So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

Ecclesiastes 11:9-10 - Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things **God will bring thee into judgment**. Therefore remove sorrow from thy heart, and put away evil from thy flesh: for childhood and youth are vanity.

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For **God shall bring every work into judgment**, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

Ephesians 6:8 - Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he **receive of the Lord**, whether he be bond or free.

Hebrews 6:10 - For **God is not unrighteous to forget** your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

Hebrews 10:30-31 - For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, **The Lord shall judge his people**. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

1 Peter 1:14-17 - As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy. And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons **judgeth according to every man's work**, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear:

Proverbs 24:19-20 - Fret not thyself because of evil men, neither be thou envious at the wicked; for there shall be no reward to the evil man; the candle of the wicked shall be put out.

Colossians 3:25 - Knowing that of the Lord **ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance**; for ye serve the Lord Christ; but he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done; and there is no respect of persons.

Hebrews 2:2 - For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward; **how shall we escape**, if we neglect so great salvation...

Revelation 2:23 - And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts; and **I will give unto every one of you according to your words**.

God judges the motives and judgments of man's heart

Proverbs 16:2 - All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but **the LORD weigheth the spirits**.

Proverbs 21:2 - Every way of a man is right in his own eyes: but **the LORD pondereth the hearts**.

Proverbs 24:12 - If thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not **he that pondereth the heart** consider it? and he that keepeth thy soul, doth not he know it? and shall not he render to every man according to his works?

1 Corinthians 4:5 - Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest **the counsels of the hearts**; and then shall every man have praise of God.

God of Justice – Part Two

God uses the just and injustice for His purposes, but always judges evil in the end.

Genesis 50:20 - But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but **God meant it unto good**, to bring to pass it is this day, to save much people alive.

1 Peter 3:18 - For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might **bring us to God**, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

God sees and judges those who wrong others

Ecclesiastes 5:8 - If thou seest the oppression of the poor, and violent perverting of judgment and justice in a province, marvel not at the matter: for **he that is higher than the highest regardeth**; and there be higher than they.

1 Thessalonians 4:6 - That no man go beyond and defraud [oppress] his brother in any matter: because that **the Lord is the avenger** of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified.

Ecclesiastes 8:11-12 - Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil. Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, which fear before him. **But it shall not be well with the wicked**, neither shall he prolong his days, which are as a shadow; because he feareth not before God.

1 Timothy 5:24 - Some men's sins are open beforehand, **going before to judgment**; and some men they follow after. Likewise also the good works of some are manifest beforehand; and they that are otherwise cannot be hid.

2 Peter 2:9 - The LORD knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto **the day of judgment** to be punished.

Galatians 6:7 - Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall **he also reap**.

The saved (just) should expect injustice from the lost (unjust) or spiritually immature

Psalm 37:1,12 - Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity, for they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb... **The wicked plotteth against the just**, and gnasheth upon him with his teeth. The Lord shall laugh at him; for he seeth that his day is coming.

Psalm 73:2-17 But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped. For I was envious at the foolish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. For there are no bands in their death; but their strength is firm. They are not in trouble as other men; neither are they plagued like other men. Therefore pride compasseth them about as a

chain; violence covereth them as a garment.... And they say, how doth God know? and is there knowledge in the most High? Behold, these are **the ungodly who prosper** in the world; they increase in riches... When I thought to know this, it was too painful for me; until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end.

Luke 17:1 - Then said he unto the disciples, **It is impossible but that offences will come**; but woe unto him, through whom they come!

I Peter 4:12-13 - Beloved, **think it not strange** concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you; but rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

Vengeance is forbidden—our appeal and trust is in God's justice and judgment

1 Samuel 24:12,15 - **The LORD judge between me and thee**, and the LORD avenge me of thee: but mine hand shall not be upon thee. The LORD therefore be judge, and judge between me and thee, and see, and plead my cause, and deliver me out of thine hand.

Psalms 7:9-10 - Oh let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end; but establish the just: for the righteous God trieth the hearts and reins. **My defence is of God**, which saveth the upright in heart.

Psalms 9 and 10 – Example of Psalms concerning God's righteous judgment, justice

Psalms 43:1 - **Judge me, O God, and plead my cause** against an ungodly nation: O deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man.

Psalms 89:14 - Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face.

Psalms 103:6 - **The LORD** executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.

The oppressed are rewarded and comforted by God

Psalms. 9:9,10 - The Lord also will be **a refuge** for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble. And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee; for thou, Lord, **hast not forsaken** them that seek thee.

Proverbs 20:22 - Say not thou, I will recompense evil; but **wait on the Lord**, and he shall save thee.

Matthew 5:10-12 - Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad; **for great is your reward in heaven**; for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

Luke 6:22-23 - Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy; for, behold, **your reward is great in heaven**; for in like manner did their fathers unto the prophets. But woe unto you that are rich! For ye have received your consolation.

Romans 12:19-21- Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath; for it is written, **vengeance is mine; I will repay**, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst give him drink; for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

Hebrews 12:2-3 - Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who **for the joy that was set before him** endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

1 Peter 3:9 - Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing; but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called that ye **should inherit a blessing** ... For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers; but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

1 Peter 4:19 - Yet is any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf... wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto **a faithful Creator**.

The realization of God's justice brings joy to one who has been treated unjustly

1 Samuel 2:1-10 – Hannah's prayer of praise and Mary's magnificat

Christ will eventually govern on earth, to the delight of the righteous

Isaiah 9:7 - Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it **with judgment and with justice** from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Jeremiah 23:5 - Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, **and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth**.