

Doing Justice is not Optional in God's Kingdom

Justice = 1- being righteous, 2- fairness, 3- the use of authority to uphold what it's just.

Injustice = 1- absence of justice, 2- violation of rights, 3- unfairness.

I. If you don't have **truth**, then you can't enact **justice**. The Hebrew Scriptures address Justice issues.

Deut. 16:18-20 (NASB) says, *"You shall appoint for yourself judges and officers in all your towns which the Lord your God is giving you, according to your tribes, and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment. You shall not distort justice; you shall not be partial, and you shall not take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and perverts the words of the righteous. Justice, only justice, you shall pursue, that you may live and possess the land which the Lord your God is giving you."*

Proverbs 28:5 (NASB) says, *"Evil men do not understand justice, But those who seek the Lord understand all things."*

Isaiah 59:13-15 (NASB) says, *"Transgressing and denying the Lord, And turning away from our God, Speaking oppression and revolt, Conceiving in and uttering from the heart lying words. Justice is turned back, And righteousness stands far away; For truth has stumbled in the street, And uprightness cannot enter. Yes, truth is lacking; And he who turns aside from evil makes himself a prey. Now the Lord saw, And it was displeasing in His sight that there was no justice."*

Amos 5:15, 23-24 (NASB) says, *"Hate evil, love good, And establish justice in the gate! Perhaps the Lord God of hosts May be gracious to the remnant of Joseph. Take away from Me the noise of your songs; I will not even listen to the sound of your harps. But let justice roll down like waters And righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."*

Micah 6:8 (NASB) says, *"He has told you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you But to do justice, to love kindness, And to walk humbly with your God?"*

II. Jesus Christ has the **last word** on Bible issues. He is the righteous & just King.

Hebrews 1:1-3 (NASB) says, *"God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world. And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,"*

John 18:36 (NASB) says, *"Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm"*

This is how Jesus describes some of His Kingdom **imperatives**.

Consider: *Matthew 5:43-47*

The **Lord's** Prayer focus

Matthew 6:10 (NASB) says, "Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven."

There is no poverty, injustice, racism, lying, wars, cheating, hatred, bigotry etc. in heaven.

III. Eternal Life Issues for the Nations and Individuals.

Consider: *Matthew 25:31-46 & Luke 10:25-37*

IV. Jesus showed us how to live. He submitted to the brutality of the crucifixion. I submit to you that it was love, not nails, that held Jesus on the cross.

Isaiah 52:14 (NASB) says, "Just as many were astonished at you, My people, So His appearance was marred more than any man And His form more than the sons of men."

Isaiah 52:14 (NIV) says, "Just as there were many who were appalled at him— his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any human being and his form marred beyond human likeness"

Consider:

Hebrews 12:2

Hebrews 13:2-3

James 1:27

James 2:15-16

1 John 4:7-8

1 John 4:20-21

1 Corinthians 13:8, 13

Revelation 5:9-10