



God Most High

Life Group Study Notes

#6. The Justice of God

Opening Up

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you.

Psalms 89:14 (NIV)

He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he. Deuteronomy 32:4 (NIV)

Recall a time when you were faced with an issue of injustice. How did it make you feel? How did it make others feel?

Drilling Down

1. Read each of the following quotes. What strikes you in each one and why?

"YHWH is the true judge. He only judges justly and does not regard the person of the defendant.... God is completely righteous and acts in accordance with his justice. His righteousness consists especially in recognizing and bringing to light the righteousness of the just and causing it to triumph. He is righteous because he bestows salvation on the faithful. He saves them, delivers them, answers them, hears them, rescues them, gives them life, acquits them, vindicates them... Righteousness [is] equated with virtue and became the sum of all virtues, existing in God as in perfect harmony within himself." – Herman Bavinck, *Reformed Dogmatics*

"The Old Testament asserts God's justice in language clear and full, and as beautiful as may be found anywhere in the literature of mankind. When the destruction of Sodom was announced, Abraham interceded for the righteous within the city, reminding God that he knew He would act like Himself in the human emergency. That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" -- A. W. Tozer. *The Knowledge of the Holy* (pp. 110-111).

"The wrath of God is as much a divine perfection as is His faithfulness, power, or mercy. It must be so, for there is no blemish whatever, not the slightest defect in the character of God. Yet there would be if "wrath" were absent from Him! Indifference to sin is a moral blemish, and he who does not hate it is a moral leper. How could He who is the sum of all excellency look with equal satisfaction upon virtue and vice, wisdom and folly? How could He who is infinitely holy disregard sin and refuse to manifest His "severity" (Rom. 9:12) toward it? How could He who delights only in that which is pure and lovely, not loathe and hate that which is impure and vile? The very nature of God makes hell as real a necessity, as imperatively and eternally requisite, as heaven is. Not only is there no imperfection in God, but also there is no perfection in Him that is less perfect than another." -- A. W. Pink. *The Attributes of God*

2. As the judge of all the earth, the Lord God will do what is right. He does not appeal to an external moral standard. He is the moral standard. All his ways are just and right. Life only makes sense in light of an eternal moral standard. God is that standard. He invites us in to enjoy the benefits of his justice and to extend these to those around us. Read the following Scriptures and comment on what they teach about the justice of God.

- Genesis 18:16-33
- Psalm 7:10-17
- Psalm 9:7-10
- Isaiah 61:8-9
- Romans 14:10-12
- 2 Thess. 1:5-10

3. In recent years and months we have seen a global outcry against the injustices of misogyny, racism and oppression. How does the Biblical notion of justice inform these movements?

Looking In

How does knowing that God is a God of Justice affect the way a Christian ought to live?

What encouragement do we gain from knowing that God will judge all people in righteousness?

Moving Out

What does it mean for you to practice the justice of God this week?

