

Wisdom Unlocked: The Ways of God

S6 Episode 3 God's Justice Feels Slow



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Season 6 Theme - God: Misrepresented and Misunderstood

It's been a little over a month since the shooting in Nashville where six people were killed. We know we live in a world of injustice, but something like this often leaves us wondering where is God's justice?

Definition - Dr. Tim Keller who has a wonderful understanding of this area of justice. He says that justice Scripturally has three components to it. As we look at these components, note that they express God's heart and His perspective of justice. First, in legal terms, justice is the acquittal and punishment of every person based on the same standard regardless of race or social status. Secondly, justice has to do with each person receiving what is rightfully due or owed him. And thirdly, justice has to do with a generous concern to the unfortunate four of the scripture—the widow, the orphan, the immigrant, and the poor; people who are in need and have lost things. This is important for us to understand, justice doesn't just have to do with getting what's right or receiving due punishment. Justice also has a generous concern for those in need.

Scripture References

Psalm 89:14 - Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne.

Psalm 103:6 - The LORD works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.

Isaiah 61:8 - “For I, the LORD, love justice; I hate robbery and wrongdoing. In my faithfulness I will reward my people and make an everlasting covenant with them.

John 5:28-30

“Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice²⁹ and come out—those who have done what is good will rise to live, and those who have done what is evil will rise to be condemned.³⁰ By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Psalm 37:28

For the Lord loves justice; He will not forsake His saints. They are preserved forever.

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Revelation 15:1-4 - I saw in heaven another great and marvelous sign: seven angels with the seven last plagues—last, because with them God's wrath is completed. ² And I saw what looked like a sea of glass glowing with fire and, standing beside the sea, those who had been victorious over the beast and its image and over the number of its name. They held harps given them by God ³ and sang the song of God's servant Moses and of the Lamb:

“Great and marvelous are your deeds,

Lord God Almighty.

Just and true are your ways,

King of the nations.^[a]

⁴ Who will not fear you, Lord,

and bring glory to your name?

For you alone are holy.

All nations will come

and worship before you,

for your righteous acts have been revealed.”

God Will Bring Justice

Romans 12:19

Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it^[a] to the wrath of God, for it is written,

“Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.”

Isaiah 30:18

“The Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him”

Response

Psalm 106:3

Blessed are those who act justly, who always do what is right.

Isaiah 1:17

Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.

Micah 6:8

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

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