

Hope WORTH HAVING™

JULY 2020

FINDING JUSTICE IN AN **UNJUST** WORLD

Isaiah 1:23

Pastor Mike Sanders

We must remember the importance of justice for all. If one of us is denied justice, none of us can ignore it. When justice is bought and sold to the highest bidder, the gaps in society widen. *"Your princes are rebellious, and companions of thieves; Everyone loves bribes, and follows after rewards. They do not defend the fatherless, nor does the cause of the widow come before them."* (Isaiah 1:23 NKJV) "Because there are no expendable or disposable people, every life is worth honoring, protecting, and saving." – R. C. Sproul



Pastor Mike Sanders

We are to do justice by standing for the most helpless and defenseless among us. There is something wrong with a society that closes its eyes to injustices. Something is gravely wrong with a church that does the same. It took 200 years to abolish slavery. How we choose to cry out for justice may differ. It should be said that no form of violence against those who have offended us is right. Christians should not fight fire with fire. Jesus did not. I have been personally impressed with what I feel is a more effective tactic. It is the approach of kindly sharing the truth heart to heart.

When we're mistreated, we want justice now! James advises patience by telling us we're to wait with patient determination. *"Be patient...until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient"* (James 5:7)

We will not always receive justice in this world. Jesus said, *"In the world, you will have tribulation"* (John 16:33 NKJV). God permits injustice to advance His plan. We have a holy and caring God who will help his people who ask him. Therefore, let us heed the words of A.W. Tozer, "I can trust the One who has my best interest in mind." God will vindicate all believers in the future.

There is much injustice in the world today. The Bible tells us that God will not settle all wrongs in the world until Christ returns. Therefore, we're to

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continued from page 1 endure patiently. "You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand" (James 5:8 ESV). In Luke 18, the widow who awaits her vindication from an unrighteous judge serves as a model for believers who are to wait in faith for the coming of the Son of Man.

God is unlimited in his justice. He will bring about justice for His people. One day He will right every wrong. "When ye pray, say, *Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth*" (Luke 11:2 KJV). We have an advocate in Jesus.

Every injustice upon me is a reminder of my offense to the justice of God. Jesus took injustice from humanity and avenging justice from God so we could receive grace and mercy from God. God demands sin to be punished. Christ fully satisfied the Holy justice of God on the Cross. "Holy justice separated us from divine blessing, but Christ satisfied that justice by paying the debt of our sins with the coin of his own blood." ¹ ●

¹ Richard D. Phillips, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, ed. Richard D. Phillips, Philip Graham Ryken, and Daniel M. Doriani, Reformed Expository Commentary (Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 2015), 409.

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