

# **Born Again Church & Outreach Ministries**

858 W Trinity Ln

Nashville, TN 37027

Bishop Horace Hockett Pastor | Elder Brian Hockett, Executive Pastor

*“This is Us, Building a Sure Foundation”*

## **Chapter 5: Holy Justice**

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

### **Lesson 3 Facilitators: Elder Horace II and LaTonya Hockett**

**Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 32:4 NKJV** *“He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice, a God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He.”*

#### **Study objectives:**

- Grasp how God *is* Justice- Understand that God is the standard by which all right and wrong.
- Refining our understanding of God’s stance on judgment and sin.
- Understanding and appreciating God’s love for us through His justice and mercy.

#### **Introduction:**

All that God does is right. He is the ultimate authority on holiness, justice, and righteousness. He is the very highest principle of justice. He is the context by which sin and judgment are measured in Heaven and Earth. Our Holy God is both morally pure and one who requires justice in all things, big or small. Our God is pure, and there are times in scripture when we see justice executed by Him. How do you see God’s hand of Justice in our world today?

The revealed love of God is visible because he keeps his word. Think about it: we are blessed if we obey and punished if we disobey. There are situations in the Bible and in our lives when God seems unjust, even merciless. Can you recall anything? It is in knowing that God is Holy and cannot sin that we trust his decisions in our lives. He has to honor His Word.

### **I. GOD OF JUSTICE**

A. Justice is just behavior or treatment; fairness, rightness.

B. Holy Justice is rooted in God's very nature. He is holy, and He is the judge of the whole earth, who always does what is right. Justice in the Bible is relational— it is how a thing, act, or person relates to a standard of justice; in this case, the yardstick of measurement is God.

C. God deals with humans according to their adherence or lack of conformity to His laws. He is just; therefore, He shows no partiality or favoritism.

D. With God, all His ways are just. Deuteronomy 32:4 NKJV *“He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice, a God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He.”*

E. All that God does is right, and He is the standard by which all right and wrong is determined.

1. That which is morally good is that which is like God. Philippians 4:8 NKJV
2. There is no moral authority higher than God.
3. God is righteous because He cannot deviate from His own standard.
4. He can only act according to the very highest principle of justice: Himself!

Psalm 89:14 NKJV “Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; Mercy and truth go before your face.”

## II. JUDGMENT AND SIN

Habakkuk 1:13a GNT “Your eyes are too holy to look at evil, and you cannot stand the sight of people doing wrong.”

- A. God’s very nature cannot allow Him to behold evil without punishing the guilty ones.
- B. When God sees sin, He doesn’t see Himself. God’s holiness recognizes sin for what it is (the root of ungodly behavior).
- C. Since God is holy, He must be “just”, and in so doing, He must punish sinners according to the standard in the Word. Numbers 14:18 NKJV “The Lord is longsuffering and abundant in mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression; but He by no means clears the guilty...”. *Sinners are those who are not adhering to His word... the Bible.*

Examples of God’s righteous judgment of sin: The flood, the city of Sodom, the Garden of Eden, idolators

- D. Sin is offensive, abominable, demonic, unrighteous, lawless. Sin will never have God’s heart or His ways.

Wherever we see stories where sin abounded, there are even more stories of God’s mercies. God is Just. Can you think of a time God had provisional mercy in your life?

- E. We were all unrighteous and deserving of judgment but thank God for the new covenant we have through Christ!

## III. JUSTICE AND MERCY

- A. God’s mercy still abounds. In Romans 5, Paul tells us that where sin abounds, God’s grace abounds much more. How can this be? How can a holy God offer forgiveness while not compromising His own righteousness?

Answer: He sent His only Son to die on the cross for us. He was the only one who could atone for our sins. God’s justice fell on Jesus! 2 Corinthians 5:21. His action is based on OUR actions.

- B. Both justice and mercy (God, the origin of mercy) were displayed at the cross. God’s grace justifies us if we accept and adhere to the Word.
- C. What does He require of us? Micah 6:8 tells us: “He requires us to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God.” We must show one another love and mercy with humility... THIS IS US!

Romans 5:9 NKJV: “Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.”

**Praise God we have been justified by faith in Christ Jesus! Thank God for His holy justice!**

## TAKE HOME QUESTIONS

1. How have you experienced God’s holy justice in your life?
2. What are some other examples in the Bible of God’s judgement and God’s mercy? Do you see where mercy triumph over judgement?

### References:

1. Perry, Jackie Hill. *Holier Than Thou*. B&H Publishing Group, 2021
2. Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary, Merriam-Webster
3. *New King James Bible*