

**New Normal - Part 3 - A New Kingdom**  
**May 31, 2020**

Learn to do good. Seek justice. Help the oppressed. Defend the cause of orphans. Fight for the rights of widows. - Isaiah 1:17

- **The root cause of injustice is SIN.**
- **Fundamentally, injustice is about the abuse of POWER.**

Again I looked and saw all the oppression that was taking place under the sun: I saw the tears of the oppressed — and they have no comforter; power was on the side of their oppressors—and they have no comforter. - Ecclesiastes 4:1

### **Three Key Thoughts About God and Justice**

#### **1) Justice is central to GOD'S CHARACTER.**

Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; therefore he will rise up to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him! - Isaiah 30:18

He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free, <sup>8</sup> the Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down, the Lord loves the righteous. <sup>9</sup> The Lord watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked. - Psalm 146:7-9

***Additional Scripture:*** Jeremiah 22:3; Isaiah 61:8, Psalm 11:5-7; Deuteronomy 10:17-19; Proverbs 29:26

#### **2) We are called to be a people of JUSTICE.**

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. - Micah 6:8

This is what the Lord Almighty said: "Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another. <sup>10</sup> Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the foreigner or the poor. Do not plot evil against each other." - Zechariah 7:9-10

### **3) Justice was (and is) a primary concern of JESUS and His KINGDOM.**

<sup>17</sup> ...and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: <sup>18</sup> "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free... - Luke 4:17-18

What sorrow awaits you Pharisees! For you are careful to tithe even the tiniest income from your herb gardens, but you ignore justice and the love of God. You should tithe, yes, but do not neglect the more important things. - Luke 11:42

All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the Lord laid on him (Jesus) the sins of us all. – Isaiah 53:6