

Deuteronomy 19:1-21:9 – 15 April 2021

“Jesus, The Carrier Of Justice”

Introduction

- *Exo, Lev, Num is what happened
- *Deut is Moses’ heart about what happened
- *Some of the greatest overarching principles of the Bible are found in Deuteronomy
- *Deut 12 began the section of the book that now looks forward (...when you come into the land...)
- *Tonight, God thru Moses chooses to connect some interesting principles all dealing with justice
- *We’ve dealt with each of the 4 principles already so the connecting of these 4 points now goes deeper
- *We’ll once again see a (Read) Luke 24:27 principle
- *Today we’ll see 4 things Jesus Christ is doing to root out injustice**

#1 – Jesus is protecting us while waiting for justice (Chap 19:1-13)

Read Chap 19:1-3

1. Repeat of Num 35 – 3 C of R inside the P. L.
2. They already apportioned 3 east of Jordan
3. With big wide road leading into them

Read Chap 19:4-7

1. Unintentional manslaughterers shall flee there
2. They're protected there as an accidental manslaughterer, but not as a murderer.

Read Chap 19:8-10

1. 3 more cities on east side of Jordan – Deut 4:41
2. In days of Solomon (I Kng 4:24), they possessed land as far as the Euphrates.
 - a. Should have added Cities of Refuge

Read Chap 19:11-13

1. Murderers could not use the C of R

Application – Jesus protects while waiting for justice

1. Jesus is our place of refuge
 - a. Read Psm 46:1 & Heb 6:18
 - b. We flee to Jesus awaiting ultimate justice
 - c. He's open to all & within easy reach/access
2. Don't just come & leave, but you live there
 - a. As long as you stay, you're safe/protected
 - b. We abide under the shadow of His wings
3. Of course, w/ Jesus everything is even better than the picture or analogy of the OT
 - a. C of R are only for accidental manslaughter
 - b. Jesus is for ALL, even intentional murderers

Read Chap 19:14 – The Landmark

1. Don't move the land markers...that's stealing
2. There's an inherent right of personal property
3. There shouldn't be a shifting of land
 - a. Buying/selling yes, but a consistency.
 - b. Can expect where the C of R are located

#2 – Jesus has proved that He is Justice (Chap 19:15-21)

Read Chap 19:15-17

1. We've seen this law in Num 35:30 & Deut 17:6
 - a. An accuser had to be willing to cast the 1st stone in punishment
2. Need multiple honest witnesses to set truth
3. A false witness will also be put on trial

Read Chap 19:18-19

1. The severity of the lie of the false witness IS the severity of the punishment for him
2. Truth is an absolute essential for justice to occur

Read Chap 19:20-21

1. Make a public spectacle of the truth & liars
2. This is an example of teaching by living
 - a. Read I Tim 5:19-20
 - b. Be sure all people learn the lesson, so don't have to repeat the punishment again later

Application – Jesus proved that He is just & we're not

1. We have the world, the flesh & the devil accusing & witnessing against us that we're guilty
 - a. Read Heb 10:28-29 – We're guilty
2. Jesus had witnesses declaring He speaks truth
 - a. Read John 5:30-38
 - b. John the Baptist (vs 32-35)
 - c. The works / miracles He performed (vs 36)
 - d. God the Father at Jesus' Baptism (vs 37)
 - e. Conclusion: Jesus' judgement is just
3. In fact, Jesus had witnesses even declaring His very innocence
 - a. Pilate – “I'm innocent of the blood of this just person” (Matt 27:24)
 - b. Judas – “I have sinned in that I have betrayed innocent blood” (Matt 27:4)
 - c. Thief on cross – “This man hath done nothing amiss” (Luk 23:41)
 - d. Centurion at cross – “Truly this was the Son of God” (Matt 27:54)

#3 – Jesus empowers us to live justice (Chap 20)

Read Chap 20:1-4

1. God is w/ you & He's greater than the enemy
2. God is the One that will do the fighting

Read Chap 20:5-9

1. Need leaders of commitment & dedication
2. Don't need leaders to fight that are committed to self, need leaders that are committed to God
3. Remember God whittling down Gideon's army?
 - a. Read Jdg 7:2 – Trust in God to fight for you
 - b. We can only do rightly as we trust in Him

Read Chap 20:10-15

1. Dealing w/ enemies outside of the land: kill the men & spare the women/children & take the spoil
2. Israel dealing w/ enemies outside of their borders is equivalent to us dealing w/ sin outside of our realms of control like our home.
 - a. Deal w/ the sin, but use precision

Read Chap 20:16-18

1. Enemies inside the land should all perish b/c they're idolaters & will lead you into false worship
2. This is equivalent to us completely eradicating sin everywhere within our control.
 - a. Sin can't be wooed by you, but you can be wooed by sin

Read Chap 20:19-20

1. Don't cut down the fruit trees in battle
2. Take the long-term view of things
3. Eradicating sin is only for the purpose of using our faculties to move forward serving the Lord

Application – Jesus would have us to take actions thru His power to establish justice

1. Jesus empowers us to root out injustice
 - a. Read Rom 8:31 – “If God be for us...”
 - b. Phl 2:12b-13 – “work out your own...”

#4 – Jesus perfectly deals with unknown situations (Chap 21:1-9)

Read Chap 21:1-4

1. Can't ignore sin & death, it needs dealt with
2. An unworked heifer is slaughtered by the elders of the closest city if a dead body is found

Read Chap 21:5-9

1. The elders of that city confess to the priests that they're innocent
2. It's a plea for God's mercy & forgiveness
 - a. You wouldn't ask for it, if it wasn't required and needed.

Application – Jesus deals with unknown justice

1. Read Luke 12:2-5
2. There's nothing hid that shall not be uncovered
3. We're waiting here at the end of time, for Jesus to bring about the everlasting state
 - a. Read Dan 9:24–“everlasting righteousness”

Conclusion

So the plan has always been for God to bring about everlasting justice and He'll complete it thru Jesus

1. **Jesus is willing to protect us while we wait for perfect justice**
 - a. Just as the C of R protected sinners, we too can be protected in the arms of Jesus
 - b. Protection remains as long as we abide w/ Him
2. **Jesus has proven that He IS perfect justice**
 - a. All things testify that Jesus is perfect
 - b. From men, to His actions to God Himself, Jesus has proven Himself just
3. **Jesus empowers US to live justice**
 - a. God is for us & w/ us, who shall be against?
4. **Jesus will bring justice to unknown situations**
 - a. Men may escape justice in the short-term
 - b. God will set all things right in the end
5. There's 1 more thing about the Cities of Refuge
 - a. Freedom came b/c of death of the H. Priest!