

TAKE HOME SHEET



Series: Context
Message: Justice
Speaker: Rusty Coram
Date: May 15/16, 2021

Justice is an attitude, as well as actions. As you read the passages below, think about how you can live out justice in your life – all areas of your life – private and public.

⁸ For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord. So live as people of light! ⁹ For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Carefully determine what pleases the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead, expose them.

Ephesians 5:8–11 (NLT)

*Learn to do good.
Seek justice.
Help the oppressed.
Defend the cause of orphans.
Fight for the rights of widows.*

Isaiah 1:17 (NLT)

²³ What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are careful to tithe even the tiniest income from your herb gardens, but you ignore the more important aspects of the law—justice, mercy, and faith. You should tithe, yes, but do not neglect the more important things. ²⁴ Blind guides! You strain your water so you won't accidentally swallow a gnat, but you swallow a camel!

²⁵ What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are so careful to clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside you are filthy—full of greed and self-indulgence! ²⁶ You blind Pharisee! First wash the inside of the cup and the dish, and then the outside will become clean, too.

²⁷ What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs—beautiful on the outside but filled on the inside with dead people's bones and all sorts of impurity.

²⁸ Outwardly you look like righteous people, but inwardly your hearts are filled with hypocrisy and lawlessness.

Matthew 23:23–28 (NLT)

⁸ And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. ⁹ Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you.

Philippians 4:8–9 (NLT)

BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:

ESV – English Standard Version
NASB – New American Standard Bible
NIV – New International Version
NLT – New Living Translation

MESSAGE NOTES



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¹³ Now I am coming to you. I told them many things while I was with them in this world so they would be filled with my joy. ¹⁴ I have given them your word. And the world hates them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵ I'm not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. ¹⁶ They do not belong to this world any more than I do. ¹⁷ Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth. ¹⁸ Just as you sent me into the world, I am sending them into the world.

John 17:13-18 (NLT)

Quick review:

word – God's disclosure of who He is and what He is about

world – system of beliefs, values and priorities that are not grounded in God

truth – reality from God's perspective

holy – made clean, pure, set apart for God's purposes

An evidence of living holy is to pursue justice.

And what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Micah 6:8 (NASB)

No, O people, the LORD has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6:8 (NLT)

Justice and righteousness come from the same root word - it means to be and do what is right.

For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NLT)

If I only focus on being made right, it leads to license.

If I only focus on doing right, it leads to legalism.

⁹ I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding. ¹⁰ For I want you to understand what really matters, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ's return. ¹¹ May you always be filled with the fruit of your salvation—the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ—for this will bring much glory and praise to God.

Philippians 1:9–11 (NLT)

Evidence that a person or group follow Jesus is their pursuit of justice.

God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they will be satisfied.

Matthew 5:6 (NLT)

Learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow.

Isaiah 1:17 (NIV)

So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

James 4:17 (ESV)