



*Pursue: Women Pursuing Christ Through His Word*  
*Summer 2021*  
*The Truth Is...*  
*Musings from the Life of Solomon*  
*Lecture Notes*  
*August 3, 2021*

***Principle #5: The Truth Is... when justice and righteousness, which are God's foundations for quality living, are no longer deemed important and so are not practiced, oppression and injustice plague mankind.***

***Justice & Righteousness: The Way of the LORD***

*... "keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice," ~Genesis 18:19*

- ❖ *God chose Abraham to bring about a great and mighty nation that would be a blessing to all nations. He instructed Abraham to command his descendants to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice.*

*1. Justice*

- *Mishpat is the Hebrew word for justice. Mishpat occurs 200 times in various forms in the Old Testament.*
  - *Most basic meaning is 'to treat people \_\_\_\_\_. It means acquitting or punishing every person on the merits of the case regardless of race or social status. Anyone who does the same wrong should be given the same penalty.*
  - *It also means giving people their \_\_\_\_\_. Mishpat is giving people what they are due, whether \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_. Read Deuteronomy 18 (Priest's Mishpat)*
  - *A look at Mishpat in the Old Testament reveals several classes of people it looks after: Taking up the care of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ or aliens, and the \_\_\_\_\_. Deut. 10:18-19 \*Deut. 15:7-11*
  - *Laws of gleaning (Leviticus 19:9-10;23;22) Read Deuteronomy 24:17-19*

*Mishpat includes a person's **rights**, it's **not** to be confused with charity or a \_\_\_\_\_.*

*Why should we be concerned about these groups specifically?*

*Because God is! They are vulnerable and powerless. God identifies Himself with the powerless and He takes up their cause. Psalm 68:5 “a father to the fatherless, a defender of widows.”*

## *2. Biblical justice is different from social justice*

*Social justice is defined as “justice in terms of the distribution of wealth, opportunities and privileges within a society. It’s the relation of balance between individuals and society measured by comparing distribution of wealth differences, from personal liberties to fair privilege opportunities.”*

*“Biblical justice is not first of all a set of bullet points or a set of rules and guidelines. It is rooted in the very character of God and it is the outworking of that character.” - Timothy Keller*

*Justice reflects the character of God which is never less than just.*

*Deut. 32:4 “The Rock! His work is perfect, for all His ways are \_\_\_\_\_; A God of faithfulness and \_\_\_\_\_, righteous and upright is He.”*

*Micah 6:8 says, “\_\_\_\_\_ justice”. What does this mean?*

*God’s people are expected to conform to God’s holy character by doing justice to others. This is what has a profoundly \_\_\_\_\_ effect.*

## *3. Being Righteous*

- *A second Hebrew word can be translated as “being just” though it usually is translated as “being righteous”. The word is tzadeqah, and it refers to a life of \_\_\_\_\_.”*

*Biblically tzadeqah refers to day- to- day living in which a person conducts \_\_\_\_\_ relationships in family and society with fairness, generosity and equity.*

*“The righteous (saddiq) are willing to \_\_\_\_\_ themselves to advantage the community; the \_\_\_\_\_ are willing to disadvantage the community to advantage themselves.” - Bruce K. Waltke*

4. *God's concerned with righteousness and justice even on the smallest level*

*\*\*Large group participation - please read Matthew 25:34-40*

*What does the son of man call those who are on his right?*

*What deeds do they do?*

*Are they righteous because they do those deeds or are these the deeds the righteous should do?*

*God hates injustice. He delights in justice.*

5. *Justice full and Final is coming*

- *God's judgments are always \_\_\_\_\_.*
- *"For \_\_\_\_\_ will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil." Ecclesiastes 12:14*

*"It is good news in a world of evil like ours, that Justice full and final, perfect and complete is coming." - [www.desiringGod.com](http://www.desiringGod.com)*

- *From a human perspective Christ suffered the greatest injustice the world has ever known.*
- *God executes final judgment.*