
And Justice for All Pt. 3

**Ivy Baptist Church Bible Study
Instructor: Pastor Kevin Swann
October 30, 2024**

Goals of this series:

- To develop clear definitions of justice from a Biblical sense
- To gain a clear understanding of the responsibility of EVERY believer when it comes to justice
- To identify opportunities where believers (and churches) can bring awareness and (hopefully) change in areas where justice is needed

Opening Thoughts:

- The ultimate goal of salvation is NOT to get to Heaven or to receive blessings in Heaven or on Earth!
- The ultimate goal of salvation is to pattern our lives after Christ! We look more like HIM and less like us!
- **Romans 8:29-30: For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those He predestined, He also called; those He called, He also justified; those He justified, He also glorified**

Today's Study: JUST Like Jesus!

- **Luke 4:18-21: Jesus' Declaration of Himself**
- **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, 19to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. 20Then He rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on Him. 21He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."**

How Jesus based His Life/Ministry:

- Luke 4:18-21 is based off of Isaiah 61:1-2
- Isaiah 61:1-2 is predicting that a Messiah would come
- By Jesus reading this and saying today this is fulfilled, He is saying that HE is the Messiah! But He wasn't here for judgment! (Is 61:1-2)

Jesus' ministry was to:

- Proclaim good news to the poor
- Proclaim Freedom for the prisoner
- Recovery of sight to the blind
- Set the oppressed free

- Proclaim the year of the Lord's favor

Key Verse: Matthew 23:23:

- **Woe to you teachers of the Law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices, mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law-justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.**

JUST Like JESUS: Key Points from Mattew 23:23:

- Jesus calls out the religious leaders: HYPOCRITES
- Hypocrite: An actor, one who pretends to be something they are NOT!
- Jesus called them hypocrites based on their SHALLOW/FALSE view of how they should connect with/obey God!
- Jesus said you give a tenth of spices, mint dill and cumin
- But you NEGLECT the MORE IMPORTANT MATTERS OF THE LAW: JUSTICE, mercy and faithfulness
- Jesus said you should practice the latter without neglecting the former. DO BOTH!

Key Verse: James 1:27:

- **Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and keep oneself from being polluted by the world**

Conclusion on JUST Like Jesus!

- Jesus' life and ministry focused on justice. **So should ours**
- Jesus came to help the marginalized and oppressed. **So should we**
- Jesus saw worth in the "least of these." **We must see what Jesus sees**