

## A JUST JUSTICE

The absence of justice in any society will eventually bring about reform to restore justice or revolution that could cause the collapse of the society. Injustice can develop slowly in a social order if people begin to lose their moral moorings. When our court system turns from discovery of truth and application of just laws to simply a contest of winning and losing, then we have taken a big step toward the slippery slope of a slide into the abyss.

Since the word “justice” is a derivation of the word “just” one might argue that our title “A Just Justice” is redundant. As used in the Scriptures, the word “just” is sometimes rendered “righteous” which comes from the word “right.” One might then ask, “Right according to what standard?” If the wrong standard are in place, then judgments from the system of justice may be anything but “just.”

The basic question of any system of judgment is “what standard will be used to determine what is right?” Secular or godless humanism would attempt to define “what is right” in terms of what is expedient or convenient for man or simply what some people desire. When mankind is unregenerate, then doing what is expedient or convenient leads to such craziness as abortion as a means of birth control, the open advocacy of sexual perversion, and the abandonment of the family as the basic social unit.

Real justice or rightness must be defined in terms of God’s intent for mankind. It must be defined in terms of God’s desires and not man’s desires. It must be based on absolutes and not on relativism. The definition must not be changed except as we come to a better understanding of what intended!

As the nation of Israel was about to occupy the new land God had given to them, Moses instructed them concerning justice and the role judges were to have.

**DEUT 16:18-20** God ordained a society with organization. There were to be those in authority. Judges and officers were designated to maintain order in the society.

The requirement for serving was to judge with just (or right) judgements. Certain activities such as “showing partiality” or “accepting bribes” were specifically prohibited.

Just a God is described as not being a respecter of persons, those who would sit in judgment in a just manner must also not consider such things as the social status of the persons involved, the wealth, or the political influence they might have. Cases should be judged on the merits of the cases and not on the fame, fortune, or influence of the litigants. If this is not done, then the disadvantaged people of the world would have no hope. This is contrary to the mind and heart of God who sent His Son to preach good news to the poor and to heal the brokenhearted.

Discrimination of any sort results in injustice to those who are not in favor at the time. Such discrimination is not limit to the courts but can occur in the work place, in schools, in churches, and even in the home. While most of us are not judges in the legal system, we do render judgments in our sphere of influence and the call for impartiality applies to us.

Bribery is a way of life for most of the world. In many countries, nothing gets accomplished without bribes being paid. It has become an accepted way of doing business; however, just because “everyone is doing it” does not make it right. Any system that operates on bribes is blatantly unfair and perverted. It leads to a disdain for those in authority and eventual breakdown of the fabric of society. Such practice is not limited to the judicial system but can occur in all walks of life.

The rewards of just justice are the same as God had promised for faithfulness and obedience: to live and to inherit. A full and meaningful life is dependent on our acceptance of God’s plan of salvation that calls us by grace to receive by faith an eternal quality of life which we can experience through faithfulness.