

Day 3 – The Righteous God

Morning

While the most common **Old Testament** word for just means ‘*straight*,’ and the **New Testament** word means ‘*equal*,’ in a **moral sense** they both mean ‘*right*.’ When we say that God is just, we are saying that He always does what is right, what should be done, and that He does it consistently, without favouritism or partiality. God’s righteousness is the natural expression of His holiness. If He is infinitely pure, then He must be opposed to all sin, and that opposition to sin must be demonstrated in His treatment of His creatures.

Psalm 103:8-12 (NLT) ⁸ The Lord is compassionate and merciful, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. ⁹ He will not constantly accuse us, nor remain angry forever. ¹⁰ He does not punish us for all our sins; he does not deal harshly with us, as we deserve. ¹¹ For his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth. ¹² He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west.

Prayer

Reflect on some of the things that may be in your life that may not be pleasing to God. Praise God that He is slow to anger and abounding in love.

Afternoon

The good news of the gospel is that salvation by grace is offered to all men, and by the righteousness of Jesus Christ, men may be forgiven of their sins and made righteous. The doctrine of the righteousness of God means that we, as the children of God, should seek to imitate our heavenly Father. We should not seek to find revenge against those who sin against us but leave vengeance to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20-21 (NKJV) ²⁰ Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Romans 12:17-21 (NLT) ¹⁷ Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honourable. ¹⁸ Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone. ¹⁹ Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, “I will take revenge; I will pay them back,” says the Lord. ²⁰ Instead, “If your enemies are hungry, feed them. If they are thirsty, give them something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals of shame on their heads.” ²¹ Don’t let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good.

Prayer

Ask God to reveal to you any areas of your life that might not be pleasing to Him. Thank Him that you do not stand condemned because Jesus has set you free from sin and death.