

## Forever Justice

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### Sermon Synopsis

This episode of World Impact addresses the pressing theme of justice in a world marked by inequity. Dr. Billy Wilson explores the concept of “Forever Justice,” grounding his teaching in Scripture from both the Old and New Testaments. He begins by tracing biblical perspectives on justice: the Old Testament’s call to righteousness and defense of the vulnerable, and the New Testament’s portrayal of Jesus as the one who embodies and proclaims God’s justice for all nations. While affirming that complete justice will be realized only at Christ’s return, Dr. Wilson emphasizes that believers are called to live justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God here and now.

The teaching unfolds through ten practical steps for pursuing justice in a Christ-centered way. These include showing compassion by sharing in the joys and sorrows of others, respecting God’s fairness even when life feels unequal, honoring earthly authority as part of God’s order, and taking action to make a difference for the marginalized. He urges believers to handle anger at injustice carefully, never letting it lead to sin, and to leave vengeance in God’s hands. Drawing on Acts 6, Dr. Wilson highlights how wise, inclusive decisions can create peace and growth in the church. He also warns against bitterness, using Corrie ten Boom’s testimony of forgiveness as a striking example of freedom through grace. Persistence in prayer and justice is encouraged through Jesus’ parable of the persistent widow, while Revelation 19 anchors the hope that Christ will one day return to set all things right.

Adding further depth, Dr. Sandra Richardson, a counselor, joins the conversation to stress the importance of empathy in responding to injustice. She encourages believers to listen without judgment, validate the pain of others, and become advocates for healing in both personal relationships and broader society. Her insights align with the biblical vision of justice as not only righting wrongs but also restoring hearts and communities.

The program closes by reminding viewers that Jesus Himself endured injustice and now intercedes for His people, assuring them that ultimate justice is coming. In the meantime, believers are invited to live faithfully by embodying compassion, mercy, and wisdom. The message is both realistic about the brokenness of the world and hopeful in its vision of Christ's final victory, offering guidance for those who long to reflect God's justice in their daily lives.

## Sermon Highlights

- God is a God of justice who will bring perfect justice when Jesus returns, but meanwhile, believers are called to actively pursue justice in the present world with compassion and righteous living (Matthew 12:18-21, Micah 6:8, Isaiah 1:17).
- Pursuing justice God's way requires living with compassion, loving justice, respecting authority, and making tangible differences to help those who suffer injustice without responding with wrongdoing (Proverbs 29:7, Romans 13:1-2, Ephesians 4:26).
- Vengeance belongs to God alone; believers should overcome evil with good, forgive others as Jesus forgives, and not harbor bitterness, which defiles and poisons the soul (Romans 12:19-21, Psalm 119:165, the story of Corrie ten Boom).
- Wise solutions to injustice include practical action like advocating for the oppressed, ensuring minority voices are heard, and being persistent in prayer and faith that God will bring justice swiftly (Acts 6, Luke 18:1-8).
- Believers are comforted in the truth that Jesus suffered injustice for our healing and restoration, and we can entrust our hurts, anger, and bitterness to Him, trusting He will right all wrongs and bring eternal justice (Isaiah 53, Revelation 19:11).

## Scripture Verses

### Matthew 12:18-21

Here is my servant whom I have chosen, the one I love, in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will proclaim justice to the nations. He will not quarrel or cry out; no one will hear his voice in the streets. A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out, till he has brought justice through to victory. In his name the nations will put their hope.

### Micah 6:8

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

### Isaiah 1:17

Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.

### Acts 17:31

For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.

## 2 Thessalonians 1:5-7

All this is evidence that God's judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering. God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels.

## Proverbs 31:8-9

Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.

## Proverbs 29:7

The righteous care about justice for the poor, but the wicked have no such concern.

## Romans 13:1-2

Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.

## Ephesians 4:26

'In your anger do not sin.' Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry.

## Romans 12:19-21

Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: 'It is mine to avenge; I will repay,' says the Lord. On the contrary: 'If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

## Proverbs 24:17-18

Do not gloat when your enemy falls; when they stumble, do not let your heart rejoice, or the Lord will see and disapprove and turn his wrath away from them.

## Acts 6:1-7 (Summary)

In the early church, a conflict arose between Hellenistic and Hebrew widows about food distribution. The apostles instructed the community to select seven men to oversee this work, allowing the apostles to focus on prayer and the ministry of the word. This solution brought peace and growth to the church.

## Psalms 119:165 (KJV)

Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.

## Luke 18:1-8 (Summary)

Jesus told a parable about a persistent widow who kept seeking justice from an unrighteous judge. Because of her persistence, the judge granted her justice. Jesus concluded by questioning if faith would be found on the earth when He returns, affirming God hears persistent prayers for justice.

## Revelation 19:11

I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war.

## Quotes

- "Justice is important to God. He will bring justice to our world forever when Jesus comes again. But between now and then, we are to strive to bring justice to the world and help those who have had injustice perpetrated on them." - Dr. Billy Wilson
- "Two wrongs don't make a right. When wrong has happened, to do wrong because of that doesn't make it right." - Dr. Billy Wilson
- "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy." - Dr. Billy Wilson
- "Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is mine to avenge, says the Lord. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." - Dr. Billy Wilson
- "Jesus suffered injustice so he could help you when you're suffering injustice and to let you know he cares, he loves you, and someday he's going to make it right." - Dr. Billy Wilson

# Bible Study

## Objectives

- Understand God's definition of justice as righteousness and moral rightness.
- Recognize that justice is a vital characteristic of God and that Jesus proclaims justice to the nations.
- Learn how to actively pursue justice in our daily lives according to biblical principles.
- Reflect on the hope of ultimate justice at Jesus' return and how to live faithfully until then.
- Apply practical steps to address injustice with compassion, wisdom, and godliness.

## Reading and Reflections

- Matthew 12:18-21 — The servant chosen by God who will bring justice to the nations.
- Micah 6:8 — What the Lord requires: to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly.
- Isaiah 1:17 — Call to seek justice, defend the oppressed, and plead for the vulnerable.
- Romans 13:1-2 — The importance of respecting governing authorities established by God.
- Ephesians 4:26 — Instructions about handling anger without sinning.
- Romans 12:19-21 — Do not seek personal revenge but leave room for God's vengeance and overcome evil with good.
- Luke 18:1-8 — The parable of persistent faith seeking justice.
- Revelation 19:11 — Jesus as the Faithful and True judge who brings ultimate justice.

## Key Observations

- Justice is not merely a secular concept but deeply rooted in God's character and is expressed through righteousness.
- God's justice is perfect and final, yet believers are called to pursue justice actively in the present imperfect world.
- Compassion is the foundation for pursuing justice—feeling for the oppressed and acting on their behalf.
- Justice requires respecting authority but also discernment when authorities contradict God's Word.
- Persistent prayer and faith in God's justice are indispensable, even when earthly justice seems elusive.
- Bitterness and personal revenge poison the soul, whereas forgiveness brings healing and peace.
- Making a tangible difference involves practical acts of kindness, advocacy, and wise problem-solving.
- True justice balances fairness and mercy, recognizing that God's justice might not always appear equal but is always right.

## Personal Reflections

- Reflect on moments when you witnessed or experienced injustice — how did you respond? Was it with compassion or bitterness?
- Consider how your own anger is handled. Do you bring it before God or let it take root as poison?
- Do you respect governing authorities even when justice seems slow or absent? How can you better honor God's instruction here?
- In what ways can you pursue justice more actively—whether through prayer, advocacy, or simple acts of kindness?
- Are there areas in your life where forgiveness is needed? Can you, like Corrie ten Boom, release bitterness and forgive?
- Reflect on how Jesus' suffering for injustice empowers you to face unfair situations with grace and hope.

## Lessons for Daily Life

- Live with genuine compassion by empathizing with those who suffer injustices and mourning their pain.
- Cultivate a love for justice founded on God's righteousness rather than human standards of fairness.
- Respect earthly authorities as God's servants unless their commands oppose God's law.
- Practice tangible actions to relieve injustice, from feeding the hungry to standing for the oppressed.
- Manage anger biblically, avoiding sin and seeking God's peace instead of revenge.
- Let go of bitterness through forgiveness, freeing yourself from toxic spiritual harm.
- Persist in faith and prayer, trusting that God's justice will triumph ultimately.
- Engage thoughtfully in community or macro-level advocacy to bring systemic justice.

## Practical Applications

- Offer a listening ear and validation to someone who has experienced injustice this week.
- Identify a local or church ministry focused on justice or mercy and volunteer your time or resources.
- Pray daily for government leaders, those in authority, and victims of injustice worldwide.
- Practice forgiving an individual who has wronged you, asking God to help replace bitterness with grace.
- Avoid negative reactions driven by anger and instead respond with kindness and peace.
- Advocate for someone's cause in your community—this can be as simple as speaking up or helping access resources.
- Reflect weekly on your attitudes towards justice, mercy, and humility to align with Micah 6:8.
- Commit to persistent prayer for justice's manifestation both personally and globally.

## Challenges for the Week

- Resist the temptation to repay wrong with wrong; choose God's way even if it's harder.
- Seek opportunities to tangibly help those oppressed or hurt in your community.
- Pray fervently for those who perpetrate injustice, asking God to soften their hearts.
- Confront any bitterness or anger within your heart by confessing it to God and seeking renewal.
- Respect authority figures in your life, praying for wisdom to discern when to respectfully resist if needed.
- Be a voice for those who cannot speak for themselves in conversations or forums you engage in.
- Be persistent in faith even if justice seems delayed.

## Further Study

- Proverbs 31:8-9 — Speaking up for the destitute and needy.
- Isaiah 61:1-3 — Jesus' mission to bring good news to the oppressed.
- Psalm 37:1-9 — Trusting God's justice in the face of wickedness.
- James 1:19-27 — Controlling anger and living out true religion.
- 1 John 3:16-18 — Loving through action and truth.
- Exodus 23:1-9 — Biblical commands on fairness and justice.
- Luke 10:25-37 — Parable of the Good Samaritan as a model of mercy and justice.

## Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, we come before You acknowledging that You are the righteous judge and defender of the oppressed. Thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, who proclaims justice to the nations and offers hope to the hurting. Help us to live as Your ambassadors of justice today: with compassion in our hearts, wisdom in our actions, and humility in our walk with You. Teach us to forgive as we have been forgiven, to control our anger without sin, and to trust that vengeance belongs to You alone. Strengthen our faith to persist in prayer and to stand boldly for those who cannot stand on their own. May Your justice flow like a mighty river through our lives, bringing healing, peace, and restoration. We await with hope the day when Jesus will return and make all things right. Until then, equip us to pursue justice in Your way, reflecting Your love and righteousness to a broken world. In Jesus' mighty name, we pray, Amen.

# Daily Devotionals

## Day 1

### Scripture Verse

Micah 6:8 (NIV): "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

### Reflection

The call from God through the prophet Micah is clear and timeless: we are to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God. Justice is not merely a social concept but a divine imperative for us to live by. Yet, in a world that constantly confronts us with scenes of injustice, how do we, as believers, respond? Dr. Billy Wilson's sermon reminds us that justice is God's heart and that Jesus is the servant chosen to proclaim justice to the nations (Matthew 12:18-21). This justice is not just about punitive measures or legal verdicts but embodies righteousness and moral rightness. We are invited into this divine action, to actively pursue justice in everyday ways. Imagine walking through your neighborhood and seeing someone down on their luck. Acting justly might mean more than just feeling pity—it could call us to tangible action: offering help, advocating for fair treatment, or simply listening with compassion. In the book of Proverbs 31:8, we are told to "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute." It's a challenge to take up the cause of those overlooked and to defend the vulnerable. Moreover, God's justice is tied to mercy and humility. We are not to judge harshly or act out of anger but to approach justice with a heart of service and humility. This echoes the wisdom from Dr. Wilson's grandmother: "Two wrongs don't make a right." Justice pursued in retaliation or bitterness breeds more injustice. Let us reflect on how we can embody this holy justice in our lives today. Are we moved with compassion? Do we stand up for those marginalized? Are we prepared to walk humbly, trusting God in the process? Remember, justice is not only about external circumstances but also about heart transformation. Jesus' gentle strength is seen in Him not breaking the bruised reed or snuffing out the smoldering wick until justice is brought to victory (Matthew 12:20). We are called to be His hands and feet in this mission. As you go about your day, be sensitive to the cries of those around you. Pray for discernment and courage to step in where justice is needed, whether big or small. God's justice is forever, but His work in our hands begins now.

### Prayer

Lord, teach me to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with You each day. Help me to live with a compassionate heart and seek Your justice in my community. Empower me to be Your servant and messenger of justice in the world. Amen.



## Day 2

### Scripture Verse

Romans 12:19-21 (NIV): "Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: 'It is mine to avenge; I will repay,' says the Lord. On the contrary: 'If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

### Reflection

The struggle with injustice often ignites anger and a desire for immediate retribution. Yet Scripture commands us to surrender vengeance to God, understanding that justice is ultimately His responsibility. This is one of the most difficult aspects of walking out God's justice because human nature craves instant fairness. Dr. Billy Wilson shares profound wisdom: "In your anger, do not sin" (Ephesians 4:26). We are permitted to feel anger, even righteous anger, when confronted with injustice. However, how we handle it is critical. Harboring bitterness is like drinking poison ourselves, only it infects those around us. Have you ever experienced the corrosive effect of bitterness or known someone burdened by unresolved hurt? It's a heavy chain that binds and blinds. Consider the powerful story of Corrie ten Boom—a woman who was imprisoned in Ravensbruck concentration camp during WWII. After the war, when confronted by a former guard asking for forgiveness, she chose to forgive him fully, releasing both herself and him from the deep roots of bitterness. That is justice done God's way: with mercy and love entwined. God's justice is perfect; He has appointed Jesus to judge righteously (Acts 17:31). Until that perfect day, we must trust in His timing and His sovereignty. How do we respond when justice seems delayed or denied? We do not seek vengeance but feed our enemies, pray for them, and overcome evil with good. Reflect today on any injustice you may be holding onto. Is there bitterness? Are you tempted to take revenge? Lay it down before the Lord. Allow Jesus to cleanse your heart, to renew your mind. By doing this, you align yourself with God's justice, which overcomes evil, heals wounds, and transforms lives. The battlefield for justice is not just in communities and courts, but in our own hearts first. Let the Spirit of God empower you to walk this challenging road of holy justice—where mercy triumphs over judgment and grace covers offense.

### Prayer

Father, in the face of injustice, help me to resist the urge for revenge. Teach me to trust Your perfect justice and to overcome evil with good. Heal my heart of bitterness and fill me with Your peace. Amen.

## Day 3

### Scripture Verse

Proverbs 31:8-9 (NIV): "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."

### Reflection

The charge to defend the helpless is a call that echoes throughout the Bible—from Moses pleading for the Israelites to the heart of Jesus Himself. Justice that honors God is active, vocal, and protective of the vulnerable. Dr. Billy Wilson emphasizes the importance of making a tangible difference. Compassion must move beyond feelings to action. This reminds me of the story of William Wilberforce, who fought tirelessly for over two decades to abolish slavery in the United Kingdom. His persistence and willingness to serve in his sphere of influence changed history. How can we follow this example today? Perhaps we cannot legislate laws, but we can advocate in our workplaces, churches, and communities. We can listen empathetically to those oppressed and take practical steps to assist—whether by volunteering for shelters, mentoring youth, or educating ourselves about social injustices. Notice in Acts 6 how the early church responded to a conflict regarding widows' care by appointing representatives from the minority group involved. This wise approach brought peace and allowed the gospel to flourish. In our world, wise, practical solutions often require listening to all voices, especially those who are marginalized. Justice God's way involves compassion, patience, wise problem-solving, and persistence. It's not always easy, and results may be gradual, but God's work through us brings His kingdom nearer. Take a moment to reflect on your own sphere of influence. Is there an opportunity to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves? Maybe a neighbor in need, a co-worker facing discrimination, or a family member struggling with fairness? Step forward in faith, trusting God to use your small acts of justice to echo His eternal kingdom. Remember that in everything, we are ambassadors of Christ's justice and mercy, called to demonstrate His love in action.

### Prayer

Lord Jesus, give me courage to speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves. Help me to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with You by making a tangible difference in the lives around me. Guide me in wisdom and persistence. Amen.

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