

COLLINSVILLE-TROY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Focus on God's Word Find the Truth Follow the Lord



Sunday Worship Assembly 9:30 AM
Sunday Bible Classes (All Ages) 11:00 AM
Wednesday Adult Bible Class 1:30 PM
Wednesday Bible Classes (All Ages) 7:00 PM



The Correspondent

Vol. 52 No. 49

For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth
1 Thessalonians 1:8

December 8, 2024

God's Justice Revisited

- Renn Ferguson

Throughout scripture we see various characteristics of God. Some of these seem to be opposing forces like mercy and justice (Exodus 34:6-7, Romans 11:22). Typically, we think of mercy as not receiving the punishment that is due and justice as receiving said punishment. However, God's justice is shown even in His mercy and forgiveness.

In the epistle of 1 John, we read in 1:9, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (ESV) It is interesting here that John says that God is just, or righteous, to forgive us. On the face of it, we may think God's righteousness would condemn rather than forgive. How does this work?



One of the amazing characteristics of God is that He cannot lie. If God promises something we can rest assured that He will keep that promise. The Hebrews writer states, "So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable

character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us." (Hebrews 6:17-18). We are assured that God promises to forgive when we repent. He would be unjust to withhold forgiveness. Therefore, John can say that if we confess our sins God is faithful and just (righteous) to forgive us of our sins.

Sometimes we think that when God offers pardon His mercy is simply holding back His justice. That even when we have been forgiven, in God's "heart of hearts" He still wants to punish us. God's justice is satisfied through the blood of Christ (Romans 3:26). If we are covered in that blood God is just and right to forgive. We can have confidence in our pardon not because of who we are, or what we have done but because of who He is.

Connections



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Holiday Baskets
December 14



2024 Theme:
The Gospel Is for All

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COLLINSVILLE-TROY CHURCH OF CHRIST. The church
meets at 1400 Troy Road, Collinsville, Illinois 62234

Fulfilling the Law of Christ

Galatians 6:1-2

I. The Caught.

- A. Human beings are imperfect- Romans 3:23
- B. Christians are imperfect- 1 John 1:8,10, James 2:14, 1 Corinthians 10:13
- C. Christians can fall back into sin- Romans 6:1-2, Colossians 3:5-10, 2 Peter 2:20- 22

II. The Spiritual.

- A. Walk according to the Spirit- Romans 8:5-6, Galatians 5:16-26
- B. Have an obligation to the one who is overtaken- James 5:19-20, 2 Corinthians 2:1- 4, 1 Thessalonians 5:14
- C. Must be gentle and careful- 1 Corinthians 10:13, Matthew 7:1-5

III. Bearing Burdens.

- A. It is only Christ who can take away sins- 2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 1:7, 1 Peter 2:24
- B. We must strengthen and comfort those who have been restored- 2 Corinthians 2:5-8,11, 1 John 1:4, 2:1, 5:13

IV. The Law.

- A. Be forgiving and merciful- Ephesians 4:32, Jude 22
- B. Be patient- 2 Peter 3:9, 1 Thessalonians 5:14
- C. Be selfless- Philippians 2:5-11
- D. Love as He has loved- John 13:34-35

Galatians 6:1-2

A	G	O	E	N	S	S	R	R	R	E	S	N	V
L	E	F	L	S	F	R	S	S	E	T	P	N	V
A	N	U	A	A	U	E	E	A	I	R	O	E	A
U	T	L	W	L	B	R	N	H	P	O	E	H	O
T	L	F	L	B	D	O	B	L	T	S	H	S	B
I	E	I	S	C	N	B	E	E	H	O	E	L	R
R	N	L	D	N	H	U	A	S	U	C	N	R	E
I	E	L	E	L	Y	R	R	T	F	P	U	A	T
P	S	E	T	R	O	D	I	H	O	O	P	S	H
S	S	A	P	W	U	E	E	S	S	H	S	T	R
R	B	R	M	H	I	N	A	L	T	B	U	E	E
L	R	E	E	O	O	S	A	S	S	M	E	D	N
R	S	E	T	O	V	E	R	T	A	K	E	N	N
I	R	E	S	T	O	R	E	N	A	N	Y	S	S

MAN
WHO
ARE
TRESPASS
LEST
LAW
GENTLENESS
BEAR
BRETHREN
BURDENS
RESTORE
CHRIST
ANOTHER'S
SPIRITUAL
TEMPTED
ONE
FULFILL
ALSO
OVERTAKEN
YOU
ANY
SUCH

Galatians 6:1-2 (NKJV)

- 1 Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.
- 2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Why Worship?

But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. John 4:23

Worship Service

Announcements

Song: 1 A Beautiful Life

Prayer

Song: 916 Come, Share the Lord

Lord's Supper and Contribution

Song: 678 Throw Out the Lifeline

Song: 250 How Sweet, How Heavenly

Scripture Reading: Galatians 6:1-2

Sermon

Song: 740 What Will You Do with Jesus? (Vs. 1-3, 5)

Song: 679 They'll Know We Are Christians (Vs. 2)

Prayer