

Biblical Justice B

The Justice Series – Part 2

Scripture text – various

Introduction

- *The* foundational truth is that justice is an _____ of God.
- The focus this morning is on God’s requirement that we also act _____.
- Biblical justice has _____ features.

Feature #1: Radical Generosity

- The poor & needy have a _____ to some of the wealth God has entrusted to us.
- They’re entitled to _____, not only as a matter of mercy, but also as a matter of _____.
- The relationship between justice & generosity is illustrated in the so-called laws of _____ (Leviticus 19).

Feature #2: Universal Equality

- All human beings are equal in _____ & _____.
- This is because all are made in the _____ of God (Genesis 1:26-27).
- The implication is that all humans are to be afforded the same _____. We pervert justice by showing _____.
- During his public ministry, Jesus gave special attention to those of _____ station.
- John Calvin: “*We are to look upon the image of God in [every person], to which we owe all _____ and _____.*”

Feature #3: Life-Changing Advocacy

- The call to be advocates for the weak assumes:
 1. An _____ distribution of opportunity & resources; and
 2. The reality of _____, which is prolonged injustice
- Ways to advocate (Tim Keller):
 1. By direct _____
 2. By _____

3. By taking on the _____ of injustice

Feature #4: Dual Responsibility

- Biblical justice requires the acknowledgement of both _____ & _____ responsibility for society's injustices.
- As to personal responsibility, we (the members of FBC) are inclined to accept this. However, we might have a tendency to deny our _____ responsibility.
- Injustices don't take place in a _____. They are the product of a whole series of events involving many people.
- In II Samuel 21, God punished the entire nation of Israel for an injustice committed by their _____. In some sense, the entire nation was _____.

Closing Reflection

- We need to reflect on how God _____ each of these features of justice.