

Biblical Justice in a Social Justice World

Amos 5:1-17

Biblical Social Justice - "A Biblical view of justice teaches us to look to God's standard of right and wrong. It's a lifestyle that adopts Christlikeness in the way we see the world and serve people. Social justice is an extension of God's love and work in protecting and defending those who can't defend themselves."

* Definition From Compassion International

Amos 5:15 ... "Hate evil, and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph."

Why is social justice important?

• We are designed for <u>relationships</u>.

Proverbs 22:8 ... "Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of his fury will fail."

Biblical Principles for Social Justice

1) The standard of justice is in <u>God's word</u>.

Acts 17:11 ... "Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so."

2) Our primary struggle is spiritual.

Ephesians 6:12 ... "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places."

3) Our attitude is <u>loving</u>.

Matthew 5:44 ... "But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,"

Matthew 7:12 ... "So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets."

4) Our ultimate hope is the second coming of Christ.

Isaiah 42:4 ... "He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law."

Memory Verse for October

"And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, 'If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul?'"

Mark 8:34-37