

Enduring Justice

PASTOR MIKE YODER



We live in a world
full of injustice.



Deuteronomy 16:20

Deuteronomy 32:4

Psalms 99:4

Psalms 106:3

Isaiah 1:17

Isaiah 51:4,5

The context of Christmas is injustice and death — and it has been from the very beginning. To understand this, we need only remind ourselves of the circumstances surrounding the birth of Jesus.

Chris Pappalardo

God promises us ultimate
justice in His redemption.



“Here is My servant, whom I uphold, my chosen One in whom I delight; I will put My Spirit on Him, and He will bring justice to the nations.”

Isaiah 42:1

“He will not shout or cry out, or raise His voice in the streets.”

Isaiah 42:2

“A bruised reed He will not break, and a smoldering wick He will not snuff out. In faithfulness He will bring forth justice;”

Isaiah 42:3

“He will not falter or be discouraged till He establishes justice on earth. In His teaching the islands will put their hope.”

Isaiah 42:4

Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past He humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future He will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan —

Isaiah 9:1

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

Isaiah 9:2

*You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy;
they rejoice before You as people rejoice at the harvest, as
warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder.*

Isaiah 9:3

For as in the day of Midian's defeat, You have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor.

Isaiah 9:4

Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire.

Isaiah 9:5

For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

Of the greatness of His government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over His kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

Isaiah 9:7

Here is a born King, actually divine. In Him everything that was envisioned is embodied. The emphasis falls not on what the Child will do when grown up but on the mere fact of His birth. In His coming all that results from His coming is at once secured.

Alec Motyer

God sends us Jesus
to bring about justice.



The longing in Jesus' day was the longing for the Kingdom of God. The question in Jesus' day was, "How will it be brought to earth?"

John Ortberg

And Mary said: “My soul glorifies the Lord”

Luke 1:46

“and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,”

Luke 1:47

*“for He has been mindful of the humble state of His servant.
From now on all generations will call me blessed,”*

Luke 1:48

“for the Mighty One has done great things for me — holy is His name.”

Luke 1:49

“His mercy extends to those who fear Him, from generation to generation.”

Luke 1:50

“He has performed mighty deeds with His arm; He has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.”

Luke 1:51

“He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble.”

Luke 1:52

“He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty.”

Luke 1:53

“He has helped His servant Israel, remembering to be merciful”

Luke 1:54

“to Abraham and His descendants forever, just as He promised our ancestors.”

Luke 1:55

One extreme is saying that true bondage is to personal sin from which Christ frees us, and thus turning a blind eye on actual physical oppression. The other extreme is to suggest that the only sin is the sin of political oppression, and that Christ's only purpose in coming was to give human beings political freedom. The Messiah lifts the yoke of sin in order to lift the yoke of oppression. The Church forgets either yoke at its peril.

John Oswalt

The long-expected Jesus turned out to be the unexpected Jesus. He didn't come in a way that the people anticipated and wanted.

Dave Nicodemus

God offers justice in
different directions.



Somehow through the Prince of Peace will come the reconciliation between God and man that will then make possible reconciliation between man and man.

John Oswalt

The biblical Gospel of Jesus necessarily and powerfully leads to a passion for justice in the world. A true experience of the grace of Jesus Christ inevitably motivates a man or woman to seek justice in the world.

Tim Keller

God offers justice in
different timeframes.



Jesus claimed to be the Messiah, the Christ, the Child born into the house of David, the Son given by God to be the long-expected King. The first advent of Jesus established His identity; it did not begin His reign, however, for He has yet to put down all enemies.

Allen Ross

The prophecy that “the government will be upon His shoulder” will come to complete reality at His second coming. We may say that Jesus now reigns above. But Isaiah envisions a time of universal peace and righteousness in this world. That has not happened yet.

Allen Ross

(as He said through His holy prophets of long ago),

Luke 1:70

salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us —

Luke 1:71

to show mercy to our ancestors and to remember His holy covenant,

Luke 1:72

the oath He swore to our father Abraham:

Luke 1:73

*to rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and to enable us
to serve Him without fear*

Luke 1:74

in holiness and righteousness before Him all our days.

Luke 1:75

Israel was looking for an immediate remedy to their physical and political problems. God's solution wouldn't come for centuries, but it would last forever. Jesus reigns to this day.

John Oswalt

**We celebrate the Giver of
justice, the One who has
come and is coming again.**

