

# Knowledge of the Holy

A study on the attributes of God based upon the AW Tozer book of the same name.

## The Justice of God

*“Our Father, we love Thee for Thy justice. We acknowledge that thy judgments are true and righteous altogether. Thy justice upholds the order of the universe and guarantees the safety of all who put their trust in Thee. We live because Thou art just- and merciful. Holy, holy, holy, Lord god almighty, righteousness in all thy ways and holy in all thy works. Amen. -AW Tozer*

*“The LORD reigns, let the earth be glad; let the distant shores rejoice. Clouds and thick darkness surround him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.” PS 97:1-2*

In the original languages of the Bible the word for **righteous and justice** are the same word.

In OT HEBREW, *sadaq*. The basic meaning of *sadaq* is “to be righteous” it is a legal term which involves the whole process of justice. God “is righteous” in all His relations, and in comparison, with Him man is not righteous. This verb, along with its noun form are legal terms signifying justice in conformity with the legal corpus (the law; Deut. 16:20) the judicial process, the justice of the king as judge and the source of justice, God Himself; (Psalm 35: 24,28)

In the NT GREEK, *dikaios*. It denotes “righteous” a state of being right, or right conduct, judged whether by the divine standard or according to human standards, or what is right. Said of God, it designates the perfect agreement between His nature and His acts (in which He is the standard for all men). Vines Expository Dictionary

In the Bible we read of individuals crying out to God for justice and praising Him for it.

Psalm 94:1-7 \_\_\_\_\_

Revelation 15:1-4 \_\_\_\_\_

In what contexts do we hear people cry out for Justice today?

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By what standard is justice measured in our nation?

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What do you believe the standard should be for justice?

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What makes justice a complicated issue in a post-Christian nation? Isaiah 5:20-24

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“Justice embodies the idea of moral equity, and iniquity is the exact opposite; it is in-equity, the absence of equality from human thoughts and acts... justice when used of God, is a name we give to the way God is, nothing more; and when God acts justly He is not doing so to conform to an independent criterion, but simply acting like Himself in a given situation. As God is an element in itself and can never change nor compromise, but is god wherever it is found, so God is God, always, only fully God and can never be other than He is. Everything in the universe is good to the degree it conforms to the nature of God and evil as it fails to do so.” -Tozer

Christ’s Kingdom and our eternity in heaven will be filled with righteousness (justice)

Isaiah 32:1-2, 16-18; 3 Peter 3:11-12

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Before concluding this study however, what of our own unrighteousness? We have not been just in all our dealings. We have certainly not been righteous in all our ways? How is it that God can look at us and not see wickedness? How can God justify us who have sinned?

“...how God can be just and still justify the unjust is found in the Christian doctrine of redemption. It is that, through the work of Christ in the atonement, justice is not violated but satisfied when God spares a sinner. Redemptive theology reaches that mercy does not become effective toward a man until justice has done its work. The just penalty for sin was exacted when Christ our Substitute died for us on the cross. However unpleasant this may sound to the ear of the natural man; it has ever been sweet to the ear of faith...” AW Tozer.

Quite simply, the Bible teaches us that Jesus took our place- he took the penalty we deserved. the believer in Jesus is justified by faith in Jesus Christ and his substitutionary atonement.

Romans 3:21-31

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Praise God for His justice and mercy! Let us cry out to God for justice- at the same time let us cry out to God for the lost, that they might come to repentance and faith in Jesus.