

The Lord Loves Justice

March Quarter
Lesson 9



OPENING QUESTIONS

In today's lesson, we learn about God's promise to honor His people, even after hardship. How have you seen God bestow honor on His children in this world?

Isaiah 61:8-10

- **Isaiah 61:8** “For I, the LORD, love justice. I hate robbery and wrongdoing. I will faithfully reward my people for their suffering and make an everlasting covenant with them.
- **9** Their descendants will be recognized and honored among the nations. Everyone will realize that they are a people the LORD has blessed.”
- **10** I am overwhelmed with joy in the LORD my God! For he has dressed me with the clothing of salvation and draped me in a robe of righteousness. I am like a bridegroom dressed

Isaiah 61:11; 62:2-3

- **11** The Sovereign LORD will show his justice to the nations of the world. Everyone will praise him! His righteousness will be like a garden in early spring, with plants springing up everywhere.
- **62:2** The nations will see your righteousness. World leaders will be blinded by your glory. And you will be given a new name by the LORD's own mouth.
- **3** The LORD will hold you in his hand for all to see— a splendid crown in the hand of God.

Isaiah 62:4

- 4 Never again will you be called “The Forsaken City” or “The Desolate Land.” Your new name will be “The City of God’s Delight” and “The Bride of God,” for the LORD delights in you and will claim you as his bride.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

A golden scale of justice is positioned in the center of the frame, resting on a dark wooden surface. The scale is balanced, with both pans hanging at the same level. The background is a soft, blue, textured surface. The title 'DISCUSSION QUESTIONS' is written in large, golden, 3D-style letters at the top of the image.

- The Lord has a special affinity for justice, and God pays special attention to those who are on the underside of oppressive forces. The Lord is committed to rescuing God's people, not primarily because they are chosen, but because the Lord takes up for those who are robbed and mistreated.
- The Lord is a fan of the underdog, and those connected to the Lord cannot remain silent when they see others victimized. Not only should the Lord's eyes see the vulnerable, so should those of us who profess to have a relationship with the Lord. If we truly love the Lord, then we should love what the Lord loves, and the Lord loves justice.
- Whose side do we need to take today to be on the same side as the Lord?

APPLICATION FOR ACTIVATION

- Often it is easy to become cynical when we look at the affairs of the world. As African Americans, it is difficult to observe the progress that we have made without becoming discouraged by looking at how far we have to go. However, we are not called to solve all of the problems that face our community and our world.
- We are called to fall in love with justice like God has. By falling in love with justice, we are to keep one eye on the big picture while focusing our other eye on ways that we can remind individuals and communities that they are not forsaken by God.

APPLICATION FOR ACTIVATION Cont.

- **We may not be able to change all of the educational inequality, but we can mentor one student who feels forgotten. We may not be able to undo mass incarceration, but we can vote and rally around people who prioritize prison divestment and critical rethinking of incarceration. We may not be able to transform corrupt capitalism, but we can be fair to those whom we employ and be generous to servers.**
- **We may not be able to transform the perception of African Americans in the United States, but we can prevent ourselves from internalizing toxic images. Even though living in the diaspora can make us feel naked, God clothes His people with luxurious garments of justice and salvation.**