

Justice for All – Part 1 – Justice for the Vulnerable

Is God's heart for the vulnerable your heart for the vulnerable?

Micah prophesied during the reign of 3 different kings. Micah is one of the minor prophets and like many of the minor prophets one thing that Micah is speaking out against the social injustices that the people of God are called or called to participate in correcting and the people of God are chastened for neglecting. The principle: God's heart is for justice in the world.

Micah 6:8 – “He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”

Unfortunately, the rise of liberation theology and preaching that is social justice warrioring has made social justice the means to the end and not the means to the Gospel. We have to hold onto the Gospel as the motive for what we do. Its front and center. But all over the Scriptures you see the call for the people of call to care for the vulnerable, the poor, and the oppressed. And when those were neglected, God was upset with his people. Why? Because he's a God of justice.

Psalm 10:7 – he loves righteous deeds, Psalm 10:18 – he wants justice for the fatherless, Psalm 82:3 – a plea for God to give justice to the fatherless, **Psalm 88:14** – “righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne.”, Isaiah 1:11 - I don't delight in the sacrifices that you're giving me, **Isaiah 1:17** - “do good, seek justice, bring justice to the fatherless, plead for the widow's cause”, **Jeremiah 9:24** – “I delight in love, righteousness, and justice”

But that's all the Old Testament, a ha!

Matthew 23:23 – To the scribes and Pharisees, “you've neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness”, This was Jesus' point when he was teaching about the Final Judgment in Matthew 25:31-46. That when you do to the least of these you do to me and how can you call yourself one of mine when you're not doing these things. This is loving your neighbor as is the call of Luke 10:27, Ephesians 2:10 we are created for good works, **James 1:27**, why the widow and orphan – because they have no one to care for them making them the most vulnerable, **James 2:26** – faith without works is death. **James 2:18** – you have faith and I have works. Show me your faith and I will show you my faith by my works.

So what about you? **Is God's heart for the vulnerable your heart for the vulnerable?** How do you know? Does it show up in your works? You've been given some practical ways to engage in serving vulnerable children this morning? Let's pray together.