

Deuteronomy: God's Covenant People

[#38] *The Righteous Judge* – Deut. 16:18–17:13

Sermon Outline – June 3, 2018

Children's Sermon: Why Did Jesus Have to Die?

- Have you ever been wronged? Should they get away with that?
- Do you like to be ignored? What happens when you ignore...

Romans 3:26b (NLT)

God did this to demonstrate his righteousness, *for he himself is fair and just*, and he makes sinners right in his sight when they believe in Jesus.

He had to die because he promised to forgive us...and he is a good judge.

Yahweh's Righteous Authority

Introduction

Notes:

Deuteronomy 5:16 (Cf. Exodus 20:12)

“Honor your father and your mother, **as the Lord your God commanded you**, that *your days may be long*, and that *it may go well with you in the land that the Lord your God is giving you*.

1. **The Righteous Judge** – Deut. **16:18-17:13**
2. **The Power & Authority of the King** – Deut. 17:14–20
3. **The Authority of the Priest** – Deut. 18:1–8
4. **The Authority of the Prophet** – Deut. **18:9–22**

Honor Yahweh's Authority

Today's Clear Biblical Bullet...

Honor Yahweh through righteous rule and submission.



The Righteous Judge Loves Justice (Proper Motives for *Exercising Authority*)

¹⁸ “You shall appoint judges and officers in all your towns that the LORD your God is giving you, according to your tribes, and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment.¹⁹ You shall not pervert justice. You shall not show partiality, and you shall not accept a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and subverts the cause of the righteous. (Cf. Dt. 10:17)
²⁰ Justice, and only justice, you shall follow, that you may live and inherit the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

The Righteous will Honor Yahweh

(Clear Respect for the Source of Authority)

No Rivals (Deut. 12:3–5 – Destroy Idols Name)

²¹ “You shall not plant any tree as an Asherah beside the altar of the LORD your God that you shall make. ²² And you shall not set up a pillar, *which the LORD your God hates*.

Do not Despise Yahweh

¹ “You shall not sacrifice to the LORD your God an ox or a sheep in which is a blemish, any defect whatever, for *that is an abomination to the LORD your God*.

The Unrighteous will Die

(Proper Procedures for Exercising Authority)

Investigate

² “If there is found among you, within any of your towns that the LORD your God is giving you, **a man or woman who does what is evil** in the sight of the LORD your God, in transgressing his covenant, ³ and has gone and served other gods and worshiped them, or the sun or the moon or any of the host of heaven, which I have forbidden, ⁴ and it is told you and you hear of it, then *you shall inquire diligently*, and *if it is true and certain* that such an abomination has been done in Israel, ⁵ then you shall bring out to your gates that man or woman who has done this evil thing, and you shall stone that man or woman to death with stones.

Trustworthy Witnesses (Clear Evidence)

⁶ On the evidence of two witnesses or of three witnesses the one who is to die shall be put to death; a person shall not be put to death on the evidence of one witness. ⁷ The hand of the witnesses shall be first against him to put him to death, and afterward the hand of all the people. So you shall *purge the evil from your midst*.

The Righteous will Honor Yahweh’s Representative

(Proper Submission to Authority)

Hard Cases Brought to a Higher Court

⁸ “If any case arises requiring decision between one kind of homicide and another, one kind of legal right and another, or one kind of assault and another, *any case within your towns that is too difficult for you*, then you shall arise and go up **to the place that the LORD your God will choose**. ⁹ And you shall come to **the Levitical priests** and to **the judge who is**

in office in those days, and you shall consult them, and they shall declare to you the decision.

Honor/Obey the Authority Yahweh has Placed over You

¹⁰ *Then you shall do according to what they declare to you from that place that the LORD will choose.* And you shall be careful to do according to all that they direct you. ¹¹ According to the instructions that they give you, and according to the decision which they pronounce to you, you shall do. You shall not turn aside from the verdict that they declare to you, either to the right hand or to the left. ¹² **The man who acts presumptuously** by not obeying the priest who stands to minister there before the LORD your God, or the judge, that man shall die. So you shall *purge the evil from Israel.* ¹³ And all the people shall hear and fear and not act presumptuously again.

Summary:

- ✓ A Righteous Judge
 - Justice not personal gain
 - Careful execution of the wicked
- ✓ A Righteous Citizen
 - A willing, costly witness
 - A willing, careful submission to difficult rulings

Obey Jesus the Righteous Judge & Live!

...Fired at our Life & Heart

Honor Jesus the righteous judge and rejoice in his righteous judgment or die because of it!



Jesus is the Righteous Judge

Rejoice in our Justification (Jesus is the Obedient Subject)

Romans 3:23–26 (Cf. John 19:10–11 – Pilate)

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. **This was to show God's righteousness,** because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.

²⁶ **It was to show his righteousness at the present time,** so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Jesus will Prosecute the Wicked

Hebrews 10:26–29

²⁶ For *if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth*, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries. ²⁸ *Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses.* ²⁹ **How much worse punishment**, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace?

- ✓ Call the lost to repentance
 - Consider the nature of evil – treating God lightly

John 3:18

Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe *is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.*