

Hello My Name is God:
I AM Just
Sermon #8, Exodus 34:7

Main Point: God is just, and will bring about ultimate justice through His Son, Jesus.

Getting to Know You

1. What comes to your mind when you think of the word “justice”?

Getting into the Book

2. What do these verses say about God’s justice?
 - a. Deuteronomy 32:4
 - b. Psalm 89:14
 - c. Isaiah 30:18
3. Exodus 34:7 seems to say that future generations will be punished for the sins of generations past. How do the following verses help shed light on the best way to interpret this verse?
 - a. Deuteronomy 24:16
 - b. Exodus 20:5

Note: “Although this verse seems to say that God punishes children for the sins of their parents, that is not the case. God does not condemn children because of their parents’ misbehavior (see Dt. 24:16; Ezk. 18:20). However, children suffer the consequences of their parents’ sinful choices. A parent’s adultery, substance abuse, manipulation or other dysfunctional behavior establishes a pattern that children model as they mature. The result can be a repetition of their parents’ emotional brokenness leading to conflict, divorce, poverty or other conditions that make their children’s, and even their grandchildren’s, lives difficult. In this verse God suggests that one reason we should obey Him is for the sake of our children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Like ripples spreading across a pool of calm water, our actions have consequences for generations to come. We can create waves of difficulty or blessing (v. 6), according to the choices we make.¹

Getting out There

4. Can you think of real life examples of how the sins of parents have consequences for their families? How ought you to live differently in order to spare your family from these consequences?
5. When an injustice is done to you, how are you to respond according to Romans 12:19-21?
6. What are some ways Christians can imitate the justice and righteousness of their heavenly Father in our current world? (See Matthew 22:37-39)
7. What hope do Christians have for future justice? See Isaiah 42:1-4; Revelation 19:11

Pray

Praise God that He can be trusted because He is just and righteous! Pray that His “Kingdom will come and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

Bonus Exercise

Work on memorizing Exodus 34:6-7 together.

¹ Cabal, T., Brand, C. O., Clendenen, E. R., Copan, P., Moreland, J., & Powell, D. (2007). *The Apologetics Study Bible: Real Questions, Straight Answers, Stronger Faith* (115). Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers.