

## The Attributes of God: Justice

*Deu 32:4 "The Rock! His work is perfect, For all His ways are just; A God of faithfulness and without injustice, Righteous and upright is He.*

*Jas 4:12 There is [only] one Lawgiver and Judge, the One who is able to save and to destroy; but who are you who judge your neighbor?*

*Ex 20:7 "No means holds the guilty to be innocent"*

*Rom 3:25-26 whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. [This was] to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; 26 for the demonstration, [I say,] of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.*

### **Defined:**

God's righteousness – "God always acts in accordance with what is right and is himself the final standard of what is right." – Wayne Grudem

"God's righteousness (or Justice) is his perfect and absolute justice in and toward himself, his prevention of any violation of the justice of his character, and his revelation of himself in acts of justice." - John MacArthur

"Justice which means doing in all circumstances things that are right, is one expression of God's holiness." – JI Packer

### **Clarity:**

#### **Resulting from Himself**

**Rectoral Justice** – God's rectitude (Latin *rectus* "straight") as the moral ruler lawgiver and judge of the world. Imposing law with promises of reward and punishment.

*Rom 7:12 So then, the Law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.*

**Distributive Justice** – this aspect of His righteousness is his rectitude in the execution of law in distributing reward and punishment. Two categories within are his retributive justice (God inflicting of punishment for disobeying his law) and his remunerative justice (God distributing of rewards for obeying his law). God is not required to give rewards for obedience, since man is required to obey God, but He graciously gives them.

*2Th 1:8 dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.*

*2Ti 4:8 in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.*

**Response:** Rejoice & Praise, reflect in our lives.

# The Attributes of God: Mercy

## **Defined:**

“Mercy means God’s goodness toward those in misery and distress.” – W. Grudem

“Mercy - perfectly having deep compassion for creatures (people) such that he demonstrates benevolent goodness to those in a pitiable or miserable condition, even though they do not deserve it.”

–John MacArthur

“Mercy is the kindness exercised toward the miserable and include pity, compassion, forbearance and gentleness, grace is love exercised towards the unworthy. Benevolence is the disposition to promote happiness.” - Charles Hodge

## **Clarity:**

### **Perfection of God**

Psa 86:15 But You, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, Slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness and truth.

### **Manifold**

Exo 20:6 but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

### **Never Fails**

Lam 3:22 The LORD'S lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, For His compassions never fail.

### **An aspect of God's care**

Psa 103:13 Just as a father has compassion on [his] children, So the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him.

### **Given for a purpose**

Isa 55:7 Let the wicked forsake his way And the unrighteous man his thoughts; And let him return to the LORD, And He will have compassion on him, And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.

### **Manifested in Jesus**

Mat 9:36 Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd.

### **Displayed in the Gospel**

1Pe 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

**Response:** Praise & Worship, reflect in our lives.