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# The Righteousness of Holiness (Doing Justly)

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## The Joys of Holiness

Pastor Wil Nichols

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***Sermon: The Joys of Holiness: The Righteousness of Holiness (Doing Justly)***

***New Series Messages: “The Joys of Holiness”***

- Theme Scriptures: 1 Peter 1:15–16 (AV)<sup>15</sup> But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; <sup>16</sup> Because it is written, ***Be ye holy***; for I am holy.
- Sermon: Entering into the Joy of the Lord (The Abundant Life of Holiness)
- Sermon: The Holiness Lifestyle (Honoring, Pleasing, and Glorifying God)
- Sermon: The Joys of Holy People (Chosen, Peculiar, and Royal People)
- Sermon: The Joys of Holy Places (The Presence of Holiness)
- Sermon: The Joys of Holy Praises (The Sound of Holiness)
  - The Sound for Trouble
  - The Sound for Battle
  - The Sound for Victory

***Lesson Text***

Micah 6:6–8 (AV)<sup>6</sup> Wherewith shall I come before the LORD, *and* bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old? <sup>7</sup> Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, *or* with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn *for* my transgression, the fruit of my body *for* the sin of my soul? <sup>8</sup> He hath shewed thee, O man, what *is* good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Ephesians 6:13–14 (AV)<sup>13</sup> Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. <sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

***Introduction***

From the previous three messages we’ve looked at three keys to entering into the Joy of the Lord; Being Chosen as Holy People (Peculiar), Assembling in the Holy Place (Power), and Offering a Holy Praise (Sound).

But with the promises of this New Lifestyle of Holiness comes requirements to experience them

Micah 6: <sup>8</sup> He hath shewed thee, O man, what *is* good; and ***what doth the LORD require of thee***, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

- To Do Justly (Righteousness)
- To Love Mercy (Forgiveness)
- To Walk Humbly (Meekness)

The first requirement we want to deal with today is “To Do Justly”, which is Righteousness.

Proverbs 21:3 (AV)<sup>3</sup> To do justice and judgment *is* more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

Proverbs 21:3 (NLT)<sup>3</sup> The Lord is more pleased when we do what is right and just than when we offer him sacrifices.

Doing what is right, what pleases the Lord is Righteousness. But there is a dichotomy or contradiction we have to deal with concerning Righteousness.

On one hand, Our Righteousness cannot save us:

- Isaiah 64:6 (AV)<sup>6</sup> But we are all as an unclean *thing*, and all our righteousnesses *are* as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.
- Titus 3:5 (AV)<sup>5</sup> Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

And yet on the other hand, God requires Our Righteousness

- Matthew 6:33 (AV)<sup>33</sup> **But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.**
- Hebrews 12:14 (AV)<sup>14</sup> Follow peace with all *men*, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

This contradiction is resolved by understanding that we cannot live righteous enough to be Holy; but if we don't live righteous, we won't have the lifestyle necessary to protect us and keep us Holy.

Our righteousness is filthy and cannot earn us eternal life, but without righteousness we may not make it to eternal life.

Ephesians 6: <sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

Righteousness does not save us and make us Holy, but because God has chosen us to be Holy, it protects us and keeps us Holy.

And what God requires of us is to Do Justly, that is be Righteous in our Body, our Soul, and our Spirit.

***Series and Sermon: The Joys of Holiness: The Righteousness of Holiness (Doing Justly)***

***“Righteousness of the Body, of the Soul, and of the Spirit”***

### ***I. Righteousness of The Body***

Micah 6: <sup>6</sup> Wherewith shall I come before the LORD, *and* bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old?

What are the requirements of a righteous body?

The first problem most people face in trying to meet the requirements of Holiness is that they conflate or equate who they are with what they do.

Many times, the first thing we ask people when we meet them is what do they do? Where do they work? What is their career?

As a result of this correlation, many people value themselves based more on what they do rather than who they are. So, if they lose what they do (job or career), they lose themselves.

God is not impressed with the sacrifice of what we do for this world, he wants the sacrifice of body, that is what we do for him.

Romans 12:1 (AV)<sup>1</sup> I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service.

The Righteousness of the Body is not conforming to this World, but transforming from it.

Romans 12:2 (AV)<sup>2</sup> And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Hymnal: You may build great cathedrals large or small, you can build skyscrapers grand and tall, you may conquer all the failures of the past, **but only what you do for Christ will last.**

## ***II. Righteousness of The Soul***

Micah 6: <sup>7</sup> Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, *or* with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn *for* my transgression, the fruit of my body *for* the sin of my soul?

What are the requirements of a Righteous Soul (Our Mind, Will, and Emotions)?

One of the things that Dr. Grace and I teach in our Bootcamp is Selfcare. It is not about being selfish, but about taking care of one's self so that he or she can serve others.

When we allow life to frustrate, distress, aggravate, and devastate us it impacts the condition of our soul and we have nothing left to give those that we're called to serve.

When we are hurt, disappointed, or betrayed it can so devastate the soul, that we have nothing to offer God.

And herein lies the challenges for our Soul; we can't control life, we can't control people, we can't stop disappointments, we have little to no impact on how others behave towards us.

The Righteousness of the Soul is not hiding from life or people, but protecting your Soul when Life and People happen.

Ephesians 4:26–27 (AV)<sup>26</sup> Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: <sup>27</sup> Neither give place to the devil.

Philippians 4:6–7 (AV)<sup>6</sup> Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

### ***III. Righteousness of the Spirit***

Micah 6: <sup>8</sup> He hath shewed thee, O man, what *is* good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

The Righteous Body is transforming from this world to the Will of God.

The Righteous Soul is protecting our mind, will, and emotions with the Peace of God.

But Finally, what are the Requirements of a Righteous Spirit?

It is the Spirit within us that ultimately determines our behavior; and before we accepted the Holy Spirit in our lives, that Spirit was our Flesh and we were a slave to it.

Psalms 51:5 (AV)<sup>5</sup> Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Romans 7:21 (AV)<sup>21</sup> I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.

Just because we were shaped and conceived in it, doesn't mean that we have to be defined and enslaved by it.

Romans 6:1–3 (AV)<sup>1</sup> What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?

<sup>2</sup> God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? <sup>3</sup> Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

Romans 6:23 (AV)<sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Once we receive the Holy Spirit, he teaches and reminds us how to live righteous; and the more we live it, the more we are protected from the sin that would destroy us.

Ephesians 6:13–14 (AV)<sup>13</sup> Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. <sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

Our Righteousness Keeps us from Quenching the Holy Spirit: 1 Thessalonians 5:19 (AV)<sup>19</sup> Quench not the Spirit.

Our Righteousness Keeps us from Grieving the Holy Spirit: Ephesians 4:30 (AV)<sup>30</sup> And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

Matthew 6:33 (AV)<sup>33</sup> **But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.**

# The Righteousness of Holiness (Doing Justly)

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## Midweek Study Lesson Plan (Sermon: The Righteousness of Holiness (Doing Justly))

### Lesson Text

- Micah 6:6–8, Ephesians 6:13–14

### Sermon Outline (Notes)

#### I. *Righteousness of the Body*

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#### II. *Righteousness of the Soul*

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#### III. *Righteousness of the Spirit*

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### Questions

#### I. **Getting to Know “Me”**

1. What do you enjoy doing for fun?
2. Name one thing you have always wanted to do that you’ve never done. Is that thing on your list of goals? Why or why not?

#### II. **Into the Bible**

1. Not only has the Lord made us Holy and instructed us to do what is righteous, He has given us the ability to do it! Study the following scriptures and respond to the questions:
  - i. According to Romans 6:13-14, what are 2 keys to being able to walk in righteousness? Why is it necessary to do both of these key things?
  - ii. According to Romans 6:15-17, what must we do to live a lifestyle of righteousness?
2. Read Isaiah 54:17 and Ephesians 6:14. Would you say there is protection in righteousness? Why or why not? You may use other scriptures to support your answer.

#### III. **Life Application**

1. What can we do to apply “self-care” for ourselves? Will it make a difference in our relationships?
2. What are some things we can do to commit to wearing the breastplate of righteousness? How often?