

SERIES: GENESIS
GOD'S JUSTICE
GENESIS 18:20-33

1. God's justice is preceded by His patient expression of **mercy**

Genesis 4:10

Genesis 14:17-24

2 Peter 3:3-9

Genesis 18

20 And the Lord said, "Because **the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah** is great, and because their sin is very grave,

21 I will go down now and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry against it that has come to Me; and if not, I will know."

2. God's justice is affected by the presence of the **righteous**

Numbers 14:18; Psalm 7:11; Romans 2:5

Genesis 18

22 Then the men turned away from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the Lord.

23 And Abraham came near and said, "Would You also destroy the righteous with the wicked?

24 Suppose there were fifty righteous within the city; would You also destroy the place and not spare it for the **fifty righteous** that were in it? 25 Far be it from You to do such a thing as this, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked; far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?"

26 So the Lord said, "If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes."

27 Then Abraham answered and said, "Indeed now, I who am but dust and ashes have taken it upon myself to speak to the Lord:

28 Suppose there were five less than the fifty righteous; would You destroy all of the city for lack of five?"

So He said, "If I find there **forty-five**, I will not destroy it."

29 And he spoke to Him yet again and said, "Suppose there should be forty found there?" So He said, "I will not do it for the sake of **forty**."

30 Then he said, "Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Suppose thirty should be found there?"

So He said, "I will not do it if I find **thirty** there."

31 And he said, "Indeed now, I have taken it upon myself to speak to the Lord: Suppose twenty should be found there?"

So He said, "I will not destroy it for the sake of **twenty**."

32 Then he said, "Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak but once more: Suppose ten should be found there?"

And He said, "I will not destroy it for the sake of **ten**."

3. God's justice will take place when the collective wickedness passes over His **threshold** of righteousness

Jeremiah 32:26; Leviticus 17:10; 2 Corinthians 5:21
Isaiah 53:10-11; 1 Peter 1:17-19

Genesis 18

32 Then he said, "Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak but once more: Suppose ten should be found there?"

And He said, "I will not destroy it for the sake of ten."

33 So the Lord went His way as soon as He had finished speaking with Abraham; and Abraham returned to his place.

Colossians 1

18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

19 For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell,

20 and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.