



KNOWING GOD SERIES



from **Godly Pearls**

Making Jesus Christ known, one story at a time.



A NOTE TO CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS:

Thank you for downloading this resource.

This first page contains different sections to help you when planning for your class, for example, Home-school, Sunday School, Bible Study, Bible Club, Mission class, etc.

We suggest that you print pages 2 - 7 and distribute them to your students.



Topic: God is just.



Read the Bible References:

The Bible references can be read by different children if possible. Or the teacher can read them.



Goal of Lesson:

- To explain to students that God is just.



Lesson Takeaway:

God is perfect, righteous and just. He does not judge partially or do wrong to anyone.



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Date:



Topic:

God is just.



Bible References:

Acts 17:30 – 31; Job 34:12;
Isaiah 9:6 – 7; Romans 2:1 – 16.



What does it mean to be just?

To be just means to be fair, to treat everyone equally without bias or partiality for anybody. To be just, there needs to be a law that guides and explains what is fair and morally right. This law serves as a standard for what is right, fair and just. When making decisions, a just person tries to make decisions that are fair to everyone involved based on given laws, rules or standards.

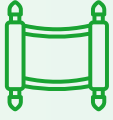
When we think about God as being just, it means whatever God does is right and fair. His actions, decisions and judgements are right and based on the highest standard of what is right. The laws of God are different from the laws of man.

God has given us the bible so we can understand his laws and standard for what is right or wrong. The standard of man cannot be compared to the standard of God.

God's standard is perfect and does not change. God does not make mistakes when He judges the actions of people.

The justice of God ensures that evil is punished and good is rewarded according to the wisdom of God who knows all things and can see the heart of everyone.





How did God show His justice in the Old Testament?

When God made the first man, Adam, God gave him some instructions. One of them was that he should not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (Genesis 2:16 – 17). Later, Eve ate from the tree and gave Adam to eat. Adam did not say “no” even though God had already warned him. God also told him the consequence of disobeying this instruction. “...*You shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die*”.

Now, was God just to punish them? Yes, God is fair. With every choice, there is a consequence – whether good or bad. In Genesis 3:22 – 24, God sent Adam and Eve out of the garden of Eden.

But God is merciful. He made a promise that man would be redeemed from the consequences of this disobedience. This promise of redemption was fulfilled when Jesus Christ died on the cross, was buried and rose again from the dead.

In the book of Genesis, God was very sad about the evil and wicked things people were doing. He wanted to punish the evil. He told Noah to build an ark so that he could start all over again with Noah and his family.

Noah was a righteous man who loved the Lord (Genesis 6:1 – 13; 7:1 – 3). We know that it took a long time for Noah to complete the ark. The building of the ark was public, and people might have asked Noah lots of questions.

The bible said Noah was a preacher (2 Peter 2:5) meaning he encouraged them to do what was right. However, it didn't appear that anyone listened to Noah's warning. Only Noah, his family, and pairs of every animal species were kept safe from the flood.

Was God just? Yes, God is just. People had enough time to turn away from their evil ways, but they chose to continue with their wickedness.



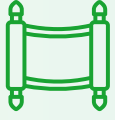


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How did God show His justice in the Old Testament? (contd.)

When King David wanted to bring back the ark of God into Jerusalem, he forgot to follow the instructions God gave Moses for how to carry the Ark of the Covenant (Exodus 25:12-14; Numbers 4:15; 7:9).

The ark was supposed to be carried only by a specific family of priests, and they were to carry the ark on a pole. Instead, the people got a new cart for the ark and drove the cart with the ark on it.

So, when they were on the way, the animal carrying the ark stumbled and Uzzah touched the ark so that it wouldn't fall. Uzzah died immediately (2 Samuel 6:1 – 7; 1 Chronicles 13:9 – 12).

Was God fair? Yes, God is fair and just. There were instructions and they disobeyed or ignored.

Obedience to God's law is more important than doing our own thing. Disobedience means we disrespect and dishonor God.



How did God show His justice in the New Testament?

In the New Testament, God continued to show that He is just, fair and right.

When Jesus got to the temple and saw people doing business in the temple, He chased them out (Mark 11:15 – 17). Jesus asked, "Is it not written, My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations? But you have made it a den of thieves" (Mark 11:17). The temple was a place where people went to worship God and listen to the teachings of God. It was fair and just that Jesus chased out the people who were disrespecting the house of God.



How did God show His justice in the New Testament? (contd.)

In Acts 5:1 – 11, Ananias and Sapphira sold a piece of land and donated the money to the church.

The problem was that they lied about the amount they donated. They made it look like they donated everything, but they kept some for themselves.

Peter asked Sapphira, “Tell me whether you sold the land for so much?” She said, “Yes, for so much” (Acts 5:8). Both Ananias and Sapphira died.

Was God fair and just? Yes, God is fair and just.

If God did nothing, people will be comfortable telling lies and deceiving others because nothing will happen to them.

By seeing the judgement of God on Ananias and Sapphira, people will learn to live an honest life (Acts 5:11). That is how God wants us to live with one another. “Therefore, putting away lying, “Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,” for we are members of one another” (Ephesians 4:25).

In the parable of the workers in the vineyard (Matthew 20:1 – 16), we learn that it is fair to pay people what you agreed to pay them.

Some workers complained because they worked longer than others and got paid the same amount.

The landowner in the parable asked, “Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with my own things? Or is your eye evil because I am good?” (Matthew 20:15).





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How has God been showing His justice today?

God works through His people in our world today. A lot of people today are working to ensure that the world we live in is fair for everyone. People work to ensure that the rights of humans are protected, people are treated fairly, and the poor and needy are cared for.

Some others are working to ensure that criminals are punished and that they receive help to become better citizens of their country. They also work to ensure those that are affected by crime receive justice and can rebuild trust and courage. These activities reflect the just nature of God and bring healing, forgiveness and restoration to our world.

Churches play an important role in reflecting the justice of God. Churches help to feed the poor, speak for the helpless, care for the homeless and give opportunities to people so they can have their needs met.

The bible makes us to understand “that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men...” (Daniel 4:17). God rules and reigns over the things that happen in our world today. He is always working in our world so that justice will be done.



How should you respond to the justice of God?

God is good, just and fair. He does not make mistakes when making decisions.

In Matthew 25:31 – 46, we understand that God will judge everyone for what they did, whether right or wrong.





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How should you respond to the justice of God? (contd.)

When you think about the justice of God, remember that He does what is right and fair. He is not partial. Ask God to help you trust that He is just.

He is the Rock, His work is perfect; for all His ways are justice, a God of truth and without injustice; righteous and upright is He (Deuteronomy 32:4).



Memorize:

Romans 2:11 – For there is no partiality with God.



Questions:

1. Mention three examples of how God showed His justice in the bible.
2. How would you describe the justice of God?



Remember:

God is perfect, righteous and just. He does not judge partially or do wrong to anyone.



Let us pray:

Dear God, thank You because You are good, fair and just. You make fair and right decisions and judgement. Help me to trust your decisions for my life. Help me to trust that what you do is always good even when I don't understand it. I ask this in Jesus' name, amen.

