

Glad Tidings

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

Vol. XXX

May 31, 2020

No. 22

Caring About Injustice

By (Jerry Fite)

Exalting God in song, Moses said, “*The Rock, His work is perfect; for all His ways are justice; a God of faithfulness and without iniquity, just and right is He*” (Deuteronomy 32:4). Like a big boulder, God is the foundation rock for our lives. All His work is perfect, needing no improvement, because justice characterizes all His ways. He is a God of truth, always faithful to His promises. There is no iniquity in Him, including injustice. Just and right is He.

If man should exalt God for being perfectly just and righteous, how should we react to sinful injustice in this world? We should care for all injustice, especially when experiencing such incongruity with God’s nature.

It has been difficult this past week to see a handcuffed man lying confined with a policeman’s knee pressing against his neck upon a street in Minneapolis. The controlling officer, with three other policemen looking on, hear the man’s desperate cry, “I can’t breathe.” For over eight minutes, groaning pleas echoing from the rocky pavement are met with unmerciful silence. Mr. George Floyd soon died with an emergency vehicle carrying him away.

While the arrest Mr. Floyd may have been just, moral sensitivity rightly judges his eight-minute ordeal on the ground as grossly unjust. Mr. Floyd’s hands are already cuffed behind him. Regardless of the nature of resistance that may have occurred before, he is now under control. Why keep pressing your knee against his neck? Are you fearful for your life with three other officers to protect you from any possible altercation? Knowing he is experiencing health issues, why continue the humiliating pressure?

The injustice surrounding George Floyd’s death did not cease on May 25, 2020. Our country has reacted in various ways to this injustice. Some, in peaceable protest, have gathered in the streets to vent the righteous anger that has filled their hearts in sorrow. Others have reacted by breaking windows, and burning buildings, setting populated cities on fire across the country.

Are you acting justly to burn down a business in which individuals have invested their tireless energy and life savings? Is it justice to burn down a police precinct endangering officers who faithfully serve to protect you, while some individual officers have failed in their duty? Many

today believe such injustice is just. Individuals, influenced by identity politics, divide people not by character but by the color of skin, and economic status. It was a black man, suffering a humiliating death at the hands of white men. So, all white men are just targets. “One of us for two of you” seems a just response to some seeking vindication for the death of Mr. Floyd. It is a time for the “have-nots” to hurt “the haves” of capitalism. We “have-nots” will loot the Red Bull out of your closed, but unprotected store. We will loot your liquor store by the case, and even burn down a sports bar, not caring if it was a fellow black man’s business with no insurance. Much injustice has ensued from a single unjust death.

Being sensitive toward injustice, we should deeply feel the injustice that Jesus experienced. “*In His humiliation His justice was taken away... (Acts 8:33)*. In fulfillment of Isaiah’s prophecy, Jesus was judged falsely. But, like sheep going to the slaughter and lambs before their shearers are silent, Jesus was silent before his accusers (*Isa. 53:7, Matt. 27:1-14*). He did no sin, but paid the penalty for our sins by giving His own life (*2 Cor. 5:21, Jn. 10:11*). We should be sensitive to all injustice, including injustice toward God!