

GOD WILL RIGHT THE WRONGS

In Matthew 7:1-3, we find a passage which is probably familiar (at least the first verse) to many people, Christian or not. Within the “Sermon on the Mount,” Jesus says, *Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgement you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?* (ESV)

It is so much more easy to notice others’ flaws and shortcomings than it is to recognize my own. It is likewise easier to desire punishment when others miss the mark while, at the same time, seeking mercy for myself when I miss the mark. When it comes to dealing with sin and retribution, humans are consistently inconsistent.

From Old Testament scripture, Psalm 7 teaches us about who God is, what the eventual outcome for the wicked is, and about ultimate justice. We must recognize from whom our salvation and security comes (verses 1-2). We should accept the consequences for our own mistakes (3-5). We should desire that action be taken, however, that action should not be taken by us in vengeance upon others, rather we should pray that righteous judge rise up and take action against the wicked (6-11). If our allegiance is to the LORD and our heart is seeking him, then we don’t have to fear God’s justice when it is pronounced on the wicked and unrepentant (12-16). We will thank God because he deserves our gratitude, and we ought to praise his name (17).

Paul sums it up in Romans 12:19, *Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.”* (ESV) Jesus told his disciples that their love for one another would be the evidence to others that they were followers of Christ. In fact, we are to love our enemies as well (see Matthew 5:43-48; Romans 12:20-21).

At the end of time, God will right all the wrongs. He will pour out his wrath upon the wicked and rebellious. He will execute judgment and his judgment is always right and true. We must put out trust in him.

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