

A Series of devotions on Psalm 33

GOD LOVES RIGHEOUSNESS AND JUSTICE

Psalm 33:5 “He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.”

If you are like many, the words righteousness and justice are abstract terms. To understand them you need context. Until you at least have a subject with whom these terms are associated they remain unclear.

The subject of Psalm 33:5 is Yahweh, your heavenly Father. The verb tells you what God does. He loves. In this case God loves righteousness and justice. God loves to do what is right for His people. God does what is just. He loves to do what is right so He condemns sin and punishes sinners. He loves to save His people from their sins. (1 Timothy 2:4)

Yes, God is consistent in demanding right living (obedience of His Commandments) and punishes those who willfully disobey them. Thanks be to God; in His justice He sent a substitute (Jesus) upon whom He placed all your sins and who took upon Himself the punishment you deserve for them.

The Psalmist continues, “. . .the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.” (Psalm 33:5) So you understand, “steadfast” is a synonym for God’s faithfulness. God promised to send His Son to take away the sins of the world. God faithfully caused His promise to happen. Jesus was born, lived, died and rose again so that in Him you were made right with God.

God’s righteousness and justice, His steadfast love will never end. The supply of love and mercy is beyond measure for you and for all sinners. He remains serious in demanding His law is obeyed. He remains loving and merciful toward sinners one and all. This is the message of the Gospel, the Good News of God’s love for sinners in the person and work of Jesus Christ. The words of John 3:16-17 are true, “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be

saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned. . ." The steadfast love of God abides forever. (1 John 2:15)

Prayer: Thanks, and praise be to You, heavenly Father, for Your mercy through Christ Jesus Your Son, my Lord and Savior. Grant me Your steadfast love and forgiveness for His sake. Amen.

Love divine, all loves excelling
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into ev'ry troubled breast;
Let us all in Thee inherit;
Let us find Thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver;
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish then Thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee.
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.
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