

advent

what Jesus aims to deliver



“Justice”

Week 3 | December 16, 2018 | Luke 1: 46-56

Sermon Summary: The ‘MAGNIFICAT’ or Mary’s Song, as most know it as, is the song that Mary, the mother of Christ, sings after hearing her cousin Elizabeth, who was pregnant with John the Baptist, exclaim that Mary would be BLESSED above ALL WOMEN and that she is FAVORED by GOD. Mary’s response is to begin to exalt God and then sing His praises. Mary shows us that God’s heart is to JUSTIFY His people and to meet them no matter where they are.

The ‘Justice’ that God brings is one that reaches different people in different ways. But what is JUSTICE? Justice can be defined as being just behavior or treatment; fairness in the protection of rights and the punishment of wrong; to make right what was wronged. Justice can also be defined as being fair play, equality, impartiality, honesty and MORALITY. Justice rings true throughout the entire Bible from Genesis to Revelation. From the beginning when Sin entered into the world, the cry for JUSTICE began and could only be satisfied by a PERFECT SACRIFICE given by Jesus Christ.

God sends JUSTICE to the following people:

- 1) **Physically Oppressed** — (v.48) Those who have experienced the literal bondage of someone else but God sends His justice to this group by giving **HOPE / FAITH**. Hope for tomorrow, hope in His people and hope for the entire world. A hope that is rooted in knowing that we are on the MIND of God and that He takes NOTICE to us.
- 2) **Mentally/Emotionally Oppressed**— (v.49-52) Although harder to see, emotional & mental oppression can keep us in bondage for just as long and can be just as strong, if not stronger, as that of physical. God sends us **TRUST** to overcome this. Trusting in HIS power, strength, in HIS MIGHTY ARM to keep and hold us.
- 3) **Spiritually Oppressed**— (v.53-56) This is the deepest type and the one that extends to the entire world thru Original Sin. Spiritual oppression can only be satisfied by Salvation thru Justification all of which is done in and thru **JESUS CHRIST**. Justification is God’s act of removing the guilt and penalty of sin while at the same time making a sinner righteous through Christ’s atoning sacrifice.

The justice that God sends is in the fact that we have to have HOPE that we are on the **MIND OF GOD**, TRUSTING in the **MIGHTY ARM OF GOD** by receiving JESUS CHRIST who is the **MERCY OF GOD**.

Discussion Guide:

- 1) Read Luke 1:46-56
- 2) Have you either experienced oppression or witnessed it occurring to someone close to you?
- 3) How do you feel that you have been an advocate for Justice and if not in what ways could you start?
- 4) Is justice important to you and what do you think is the best way to embrace the justice delivered by God?