

# Pure Religion

◆ Being The Hands & Feet of Jesus ◆

## Isaiah 1:1-2

The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth; for the Lord has spoken:

Children have I reared and brought up, but they have rebelled against me.





**Big Idea**

God's people receiving God's grace will reflect  
God's heart for the vulnerable.

## Isaiah 1:1-9

Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth;  
for the Lord has spoken:

“Children have I reared and brought up, but they have rebelled against me.

The ox knows its owner, and the donkey its master's crib,  
but Israel does not know, my people do not understand.”

Ah, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, offspring of evildoers, children who deal corruptly! They have forsaken the Lord, they have despised the Holy One of Israel, they are utterly estranged.

Why will you still be struck down? Why will you continue to rebel? The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint.

## Big Idea

God's people receiving God's grace will reflect God's heart for the vulnerable.

## Isaiah 1:1-9

From the sole of the foot even to the head, there is no soundness in it, but bruises and sores and raw wounds; They are not pressed out or bound up or softened with oil.

Your country lies desolate; your cities are burned with fire; in your very presence foreigners devour your land; it is desolate, as overthrown by foreigners.

And the daughter of Zion is left like a booth in a vineyard, like a lodge in a cucumber field, like a besieged city.

If the Lord of hosts had not left us a few survivors, we should have been like Sodom, and become like Gomorrah.

## Big Idea

God's people receiving God's grace will reflect God's heart for the vulnerable.

## Isaiah 1:3

“The ox knows its owner, and the donkey its master's crib, but Israel does not know, my people do not understand.”

## 1) God reveals the hearts of the rebellious (v1-9)

## **Isaiah 1:4**

Ah, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, offspring of evildoers, children who deal corruptly! They have forsaken the Lord, they have despised the Holy One of Israel, they are utterly estranged.

## **1) God reveals the hearts of the rebellious (v1-9)**

**a. Independence (v3)**

**b. Ingratitude (v3)**

## **Isaiah 1:5–6**

Why will you still be struck down? Why will you continue to rebel? The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. From the sole of the foot even to the head, there is no soundness in it, but bruises and sores and raw wounds; They are not pressed out or bound up or softened with oil.

## **1) God reveals the hearts of the rebellious (v1-9)**

- a. Independence (v3)**
- b. Ingratitude (v3)**
- c. Immorality (v4)**
- d. Injustice (v4)**

## **Isaiah 1:7-8**

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**f. Insecure (v7-8)**

## 1) God reveals the hearts of the rebellious (v1-9)

### Four responses to an intervention

- Receive and act
- Receive and not act
- Reject and deny
- Reject and accuse

## Isaiah 1:10-13

Hear the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom! Give ear to the teaching of our God, you people of Gomorrah!

“What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats.

“When you come to appear before me, who has required of you this trampling of my courts?

Bring no more vain offerings; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and Sabbath and the calling of convocations — I cannot endure iniquity and solemn assembly.

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### Four responses to an intervention

- **Receive and act**
- **Receive and not act**
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## Isaiah 1:14-15

Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hates; they have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them.

When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood.

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**1) God reveals the hearts of the rebellious (v1-9)**

**2) God rejects the religious activity of the unrepentant (v10-15)**

## **Isaiah 1:11**

“What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats.

## **2) God rejects the religious activity of the unrepentant (v10-15)**

### **a. Sacrifices (v11)**

## **Isaiah 1:12-14**

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## **2) God rejects the religious activity of the unrepentant (v10-15)**

**a. Sacrifices (v1)**

**b. Sabbaths (v12-14)**

**c. Solemn Assemblies (v12-14)**

## **Isaiah 1:15**

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## **2) God rejects the religious activity of the unrepentant (v10-15)**

- a. Sacrifices (v11)**
- b. Sabbaths (v12-14)**
- c. Solemn Assemblies (v12-14)**
- d. Supplications (v15)**

## **Proverbs 21:13**

Whoever closes his ear to the cry of the poor will himself call out and not be answered.

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- a. Sacrifices (v11)**
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## **Psalm 51:17**

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise

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## Isaiah 1:16-18

Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

“Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

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- 2. God rejects the religious activity of the unrepentant (v10-15)**
- 3. God requires justice from the justified (v16-18)**

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### **3. God requires justice from the justified (v16-18)**

#### **a. The Mark of Justice**

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## 3. God requires justice from the justified (v16-18)

### a. The Mark of Justice



## Tim Keller (Generous Justice)

"It is striking to see how often God is introduced as the defender of these vulnerable groups. Don't miss the significance of this... This is one of the main things he does in the world. He identifies with the powerless, he takes up their cause.... From ancient times, the God of the Bible stood out from the gods of all other religions as a God on the side of the powerless, and of justice for the poor."

## 3. God requires justice from the justified (v16-18)

### a. The Mark of Justice

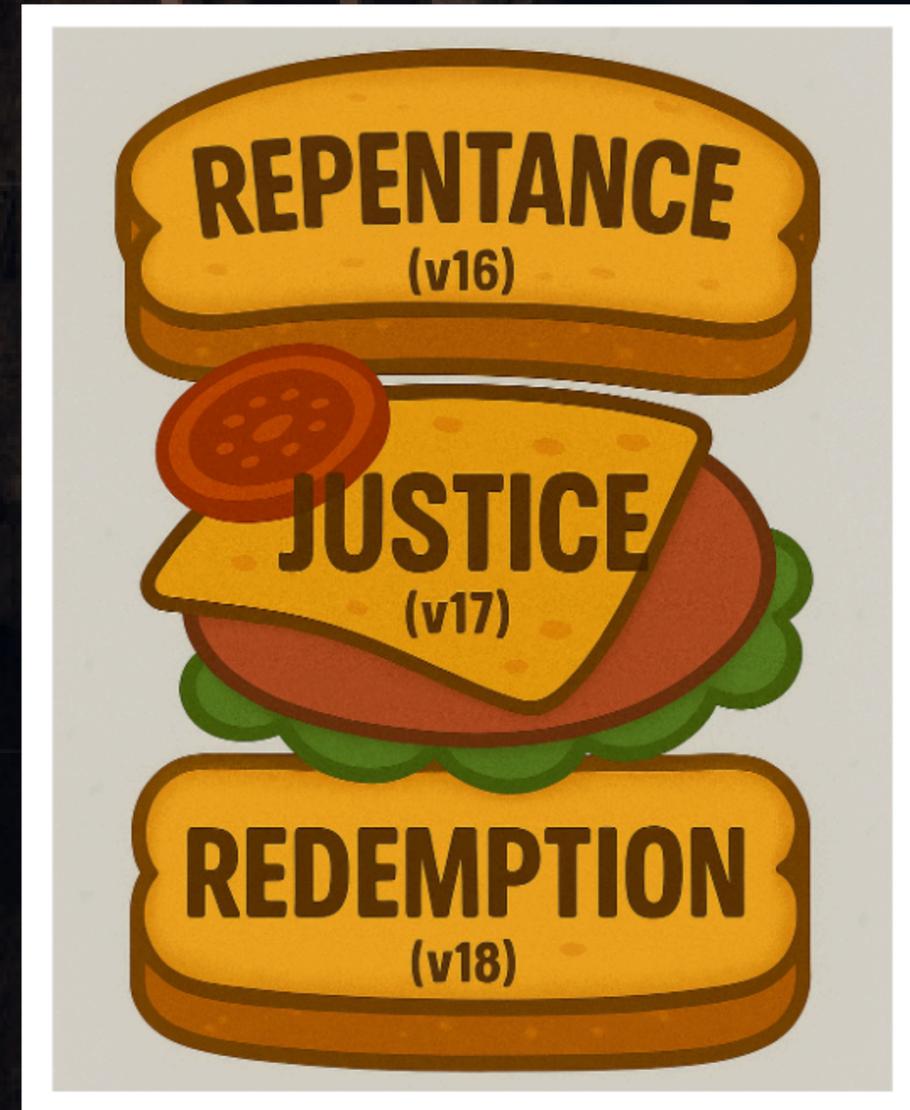


## Zechariah 7:9-10

Thus says the Lord of hosts, Render true judgments, show kindness and mercy to one another, do not oppress the **widow**, the **fatherless**, the **sojourner**, or the **poor**, and let none of you devise evil against another in your heart.

## 3. God requires justice from the justified (v16-18)

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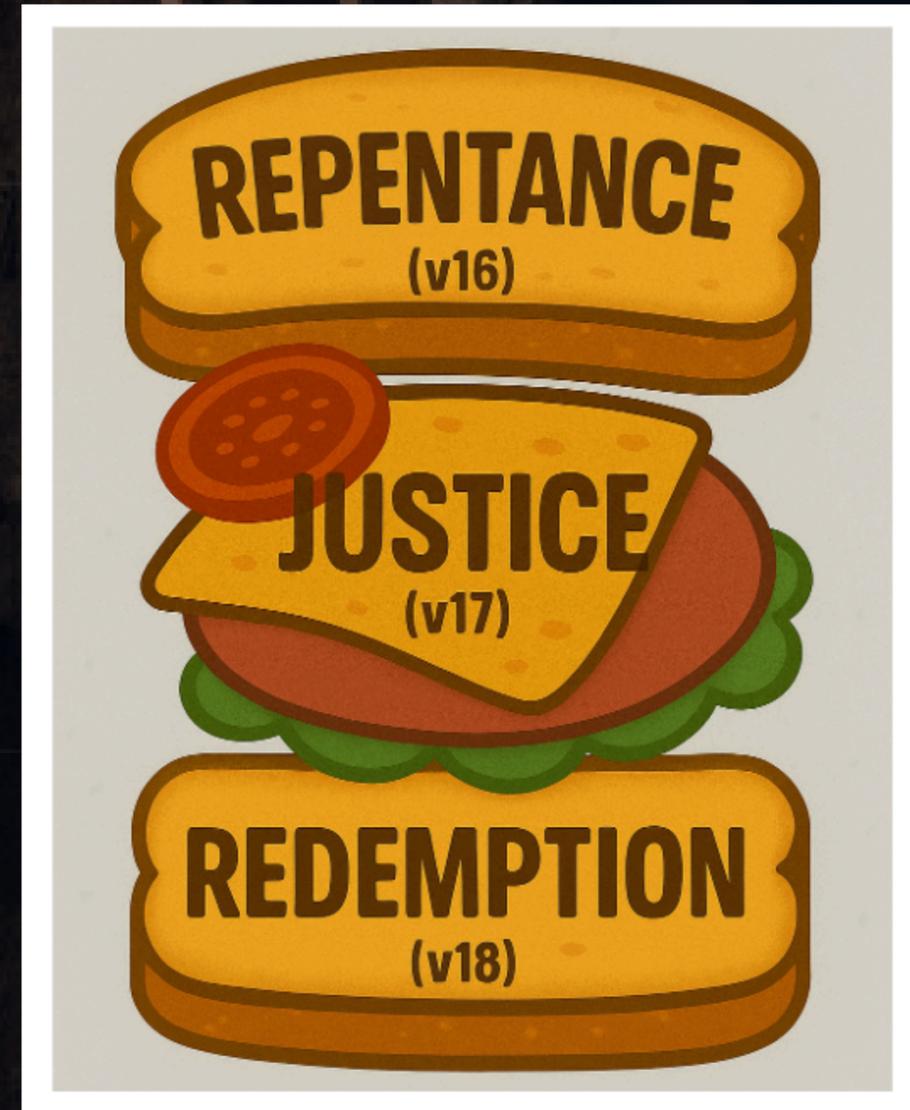


## Matthew 23:23

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.

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### Isaiah 58:4b, 6-7

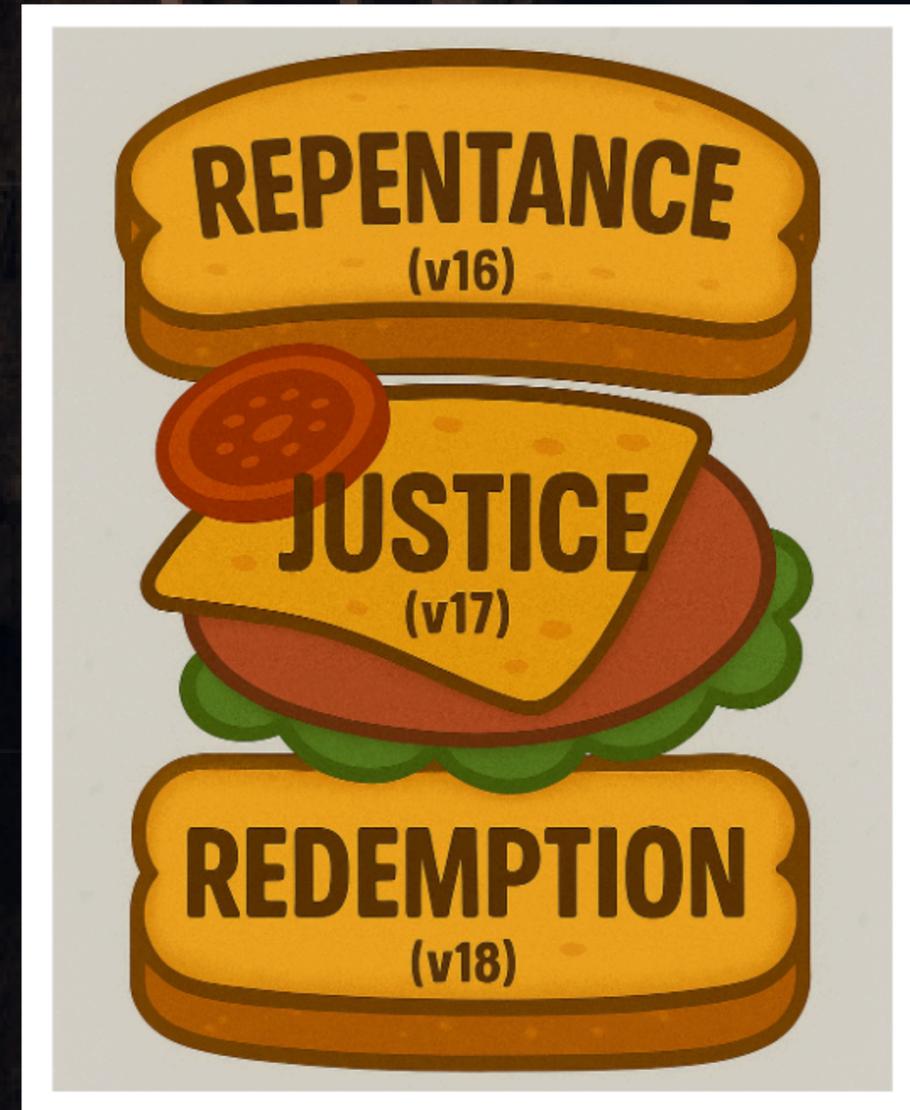
Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high...

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?"

### 3. God requires justice from the justified (v16-18)

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### **James 2:15-17**

If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

### **3. God requires justice from the justified (v16-18)**

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### **Isaiah 1:16-18**

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**b. The Motive for Justice**

### **Tim Keller (Generous Justice)**

People who come to grasp the gospel of grace and see that they're **spiritually** poor find their hearts gravitating toward the **materially** poor. To the degree that the gospel shapes your self-image, you **will** identify with those in need.

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Because	God met my	deepest need	that I	didn't deserve	as a vulnerable sinner
Therefore	I want to meet	basic needs	that the vulnerable	do deserve	as people made in God's image

## **Isaiah 1:17**

learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

## **3. God requires justice from the justified (v16-18)**

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- c. The Manner of Justice**



## Isaiah 1:17

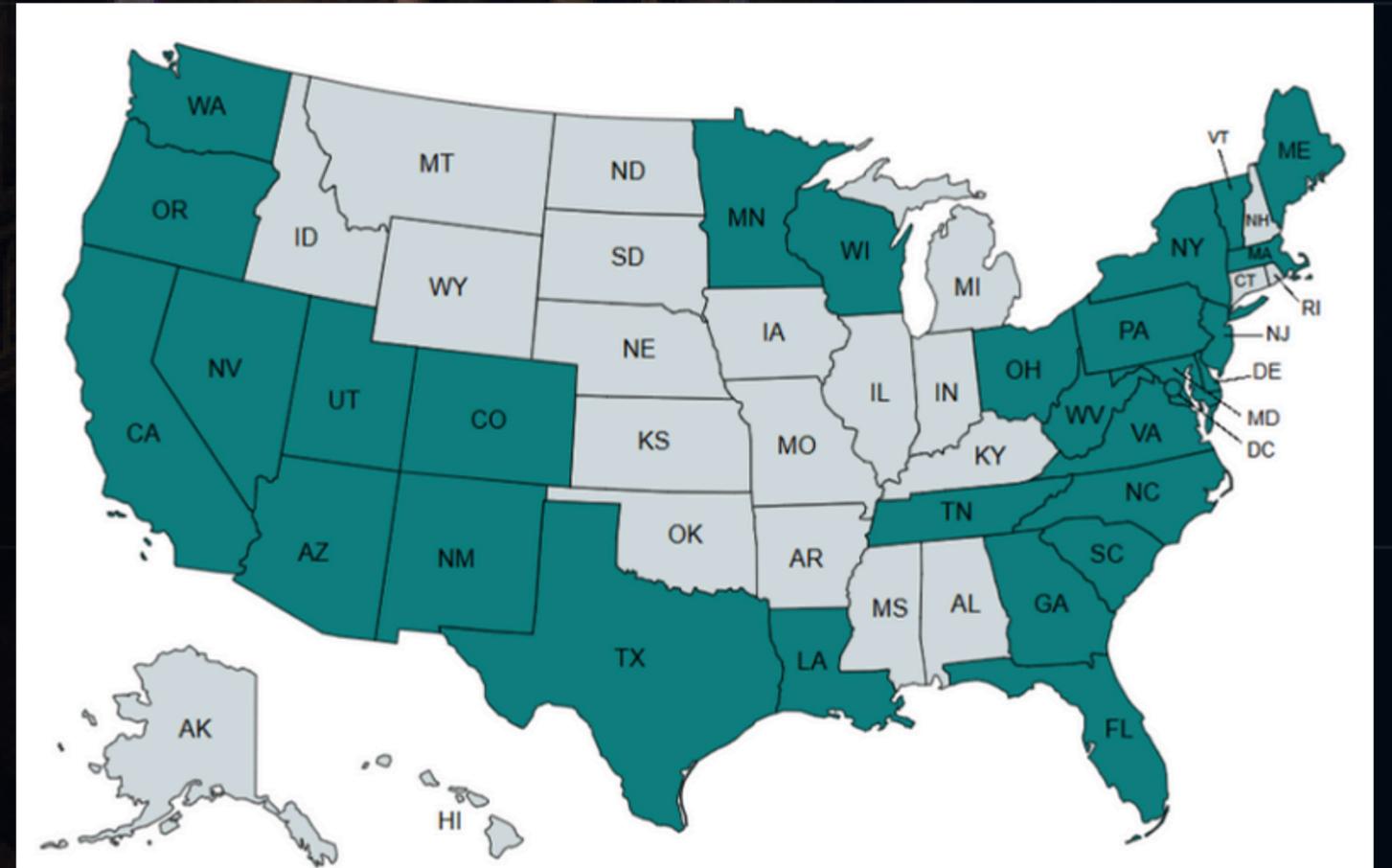
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- b. **The Motive for Justice**
- c. **The Manner of Justice**
  - **Proximity**
  - **Proactivity**

## Big Idea

God's people receiving God's grace will reflect God's heart for the vulnerable.

## **Micah 6:8**

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

## **What does it mean for Monday?**

## **Micah 6:8**

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## **What does it mean for Monday?**

### **1. Walk Humbly**

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## **What does it mean for Monday?**

- 1. Walk Humbly**
- 2. Love Kindness**

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## **What does it mean for Monday?**

- 1. Walk Humbly**
- 2. Love Kindness**
- 3. Do Justice**

## **Robert Murray McCheyne**

“Christ knew that thousands would trample his blood under their feet; that most would despise it; that many would make it an excuse for sinning more, and yet he shed his blood anyway.”

## **What does it mean for Monday?**

- 1. Walk Humbly**
- 2. Love Kindness**
- 3. Do Justice**
  - a. The poor might abuse my help.**

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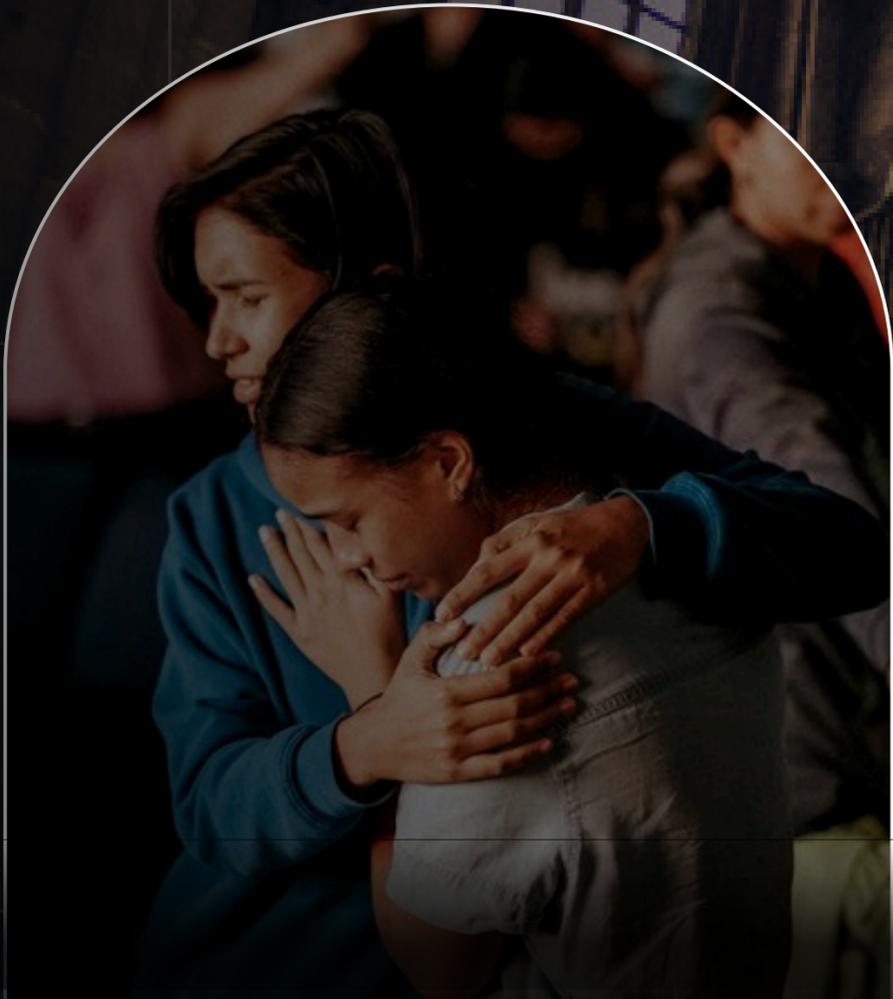
**1. Walk Humbly**

**2. Love Kindness**

**3. Do Justice**

**a. The poor might abuse my help**

**b. I can't figure out what to do**



# Justice from the Justified

◆ Isaiah 1:1-18 ◆