

on point

Problem:

matt 16:21-23 - fight-back, get-even culture! Our world bombards us with messages that urge us to stand up for our personal rights. We are quick to defend ourselves when we feel somebody steps on our toes, crosses the line, ignores boundaries, or intrudes on our personal domain.

Main Idea:

Justice is not our message. Grace is.

Text:

submit even to unjust employers

1Pet. 2:18 ¶ Servants, **be subject** to your masters with **all respect**, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust.

be subject- 1 Peter 2:13-17 - honor everyone in this fallen world

masters just and unjust -

1 Cor 7:17-24; NT scandalously silent regarding how to fight social injustice. why?

be subject...not because they are good or intrinsically worthy of this - (Nero, slavery etc)

as ambassadors of grace

1Pet. 2:19 **For this is a gracious thing**, when, mindful of God, one **endures** sorrows **while suffering unjustly**.

1Pet. 2:20 For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you **do good** (not evil even evil masters ask for non evil tasks to be done) **and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God.**

Luke 6:32-34 - grace is scandalous in this world

Rom 12:9-21 - truly aliens in this world - justice is God's ultimate concern

for this is your calling

1Pet. 2:21 For **to this you have been called, because Christ** also suffered for you, leaving you **an example** (special word used once meaning script), so that you might follow in his steps.

1Pet. 2:22 He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth.

1Pet. 2:23 When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.

1Pet. 2:24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

1Pet. 2:25 For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

(21) example = script -> Phil 2:1-11 ->

(23) entrusting Himself - luke 22:42; 23:46

(25) shepherd, overseer -we can entrust ourselves to Him -> Ezek 34:1-16

For now:

our concern must reflect Christ's concern for grace not justice

Christ wanted justice but knew now was not the time - Luke 12:49-50 -

Christ concerned with grace and sacrifice and weakness now - Isa 52:13-53:12 the time was for grace

Main Idea:

Justice is not our message. Grace is.

grace triumphed over justice for our sake - james 2:8-13 **-Grace triumphed over justice for our sake- We are an advertisement for the very fact that God didn't give us what we**

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deserved - we are here for the very reason that God didn't give us justice. He gave us grace.

-and it must for theirs- 2 Cor 5:18-21 - ***so while we may try to bring justice to unjust institutions- Justice is not our message and improving institutions is not our ultimate goal. Grace is. Our message must be grace and our goal must remain firmly fixed on this trajectory.***

application -strength from weakness

2 Cor 12:7-10 - ***Respond with grace in the face of injustice knowing that while perfect justice is coming, perfect grace is here now.***

Action:

Stop and think! When did you last take it on the chin for the cause of Christ? When did you last surrender your rights for the deliberate purpose of following Christ's example at your job?