

# Justice in the Kingdom of God

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2 Samuel 8:15

*2 Samuel 8:15 NKJV - "15 So David reigned over all Israel; and David administered judgment and justice to all his people."*

*"Justice consists not in being neutral between right and wrong, but finding out the right and upholding it, wherever found, against the wrong"*

—Theodore Roosevelt

*2 Samuel 3:1 NKJV - "1 Now there was a long war between the house of Saul and the house of David. But David grew stronger and stronger, and the house of Saul grew weaker and weaker."*

*2 Samuel 5:12 NKJV - "12 So David knew that the LORD had established him as king over Israel, and that He had exalted His kingdom for the sake of His people Israel."*

*2 Samuel 8:15 NKJV - "15 So David reigned over all Israel; and David administered judgment and justice to all his people."*

## **1.) David's Reign was God's Reign For the Sake of His People, Making Manifest the Love of God.**

### **A.) David is God's Chosen Man.**

*1 Samuel 15:28-29 NKJV - "28 So Samuel said to him, "The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today, and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who is better than you. 29 "And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor relent. For He is not a man, that He should relent.""*

*1 Samuel 16:12 NKJV - "12 So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with bright eyes, and good-looking. And the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!""*

*Psalms 139:13-16 NKJV - "13 For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. 14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well. 15 My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully*

wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. 16 Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When as yet there were none of them."

Jeremiah 1:5 NKJV - "5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations.""

Galatians 1:15-16 NKJV - "15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, 16 to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood,"

2 Samuel 7:8-10 NKJV - "8 "Now therefore, thus shall you say to My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: "I took you from the sheepfold, from following the sheep, to be ruler over My people, over Israel. 9 "And I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have cut off all your enemies from before you, and have made you a great name, like the name of the great men who are on the earth. 10 "Moreover I will appoint a place for My people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own and move no more; nor shall the sons of wickedness oppress them anymore, as previously,"

**B.) What God is Doing is Not Specifically For David, But For His People.**

**C.) We Cannot Understand 2 Samuel 8:15 Rightly Until We See it as a Concrete Manifestation of the Love of God For His People.**

*Read verse 15.*

**2.) David's Reign Was God's Reign For the Sake of his People, Making Manifest the Justice of God.**

**A.) David's Reign Was God's Reign.**

*Deuteronomy 17:18-20 NKJV - "18 "Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from the one before the priests, the Levites. 19 "And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes, 20 "that his heart may not be lifted*

*above his brethren, that he may not turn aside from the commandment to the right hand or to the left, and that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children in the midst of Israel."*

*I Samuel 8:9 NKJV - "9 "Now therefore, heed their voice. However, you shall solemnly forewarn them, and show them the behavior of the king who will reign over them.""*

## **B.) David Administered Judgments in Righteousness.**

*Deuteronomy 4:8 NKJV - "8 "And what great nation is there that has such statutes and righteous judgments as are in all this law which I set before you this day?"*

## **C.) Righteous judgments are Also Understood as the Application of the Instructions of the Lord to All of Life.**

## **D.) Righteous Judgments are God's Judgments, Therefore There Are No Neutral Judgments.**

### **Application:**

## **1.) If Justice Comes From God, Injustice Begins With What Is Right in Our Own Eyes.**

*Judges 21:25 NKJV - "25 In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes."*

*Read verse 15.*

*"There is a higher court than courts of justice and that is the court of conscience. It supersedes all other courts."*

*—Mahatma Gandhi*

*Deuteronomy 32:4 NKJV - "4 He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice, A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He."*

*"True peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice."*

—Martin Luther King Jr.

## **2.) One of the Fundamental Characteristics of Justice in the Bible Is Impartiality.**

*Leviticus 19:15 NKJV - "15 'You shall do no injustice in judgment. You shall not be partial to the poor, nor honor the person of the mighty. In righteousness you shall judge your neighbor."*

*Deuteronomy 1:16-17 NKJV - "16 'Then I commanded your judges at that time, saying, 'Hear the cases between your brethren, and judge righteously between a man and his brother or the stranger who is with him. 17 'You shall not show partiality in judgment; you shall hear the small as well as the great; you shall not be afraid in any man's presence, for the judgment is God's. The case that is too hard for you, bring to me, and I will hear it.'"*

*Proverbs 17:15 NKJV - "15 He who justifies the wicked, and he who condemns the just, Both of them alike are an abomination to the LORD."*

## **3.) What Is the Determining Factor for What Is Right and True?**

**"Guidelines, Not Bloodlines."**

## **4.) All Injustice, in the End, Will Be Made Just.**