

# Seeing His Glory

ISAIAH

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An abstract painting featuring thick, horizontal brushstrokes. The color palette is dominated by deep blues and purples, with a central band of bright orange and yellow. The texture is highly visible, with many small, dark spots and ridges in the paint. The overall effect is one of intense, layered energy.

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# What is justice?

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# What is justice?

mishpat = justice; to treat people equitably

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mishpat = justice; to treat people equitably

tsedeka = righteousness



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## Isaiah 16:5

In love a throne will be established;  
in faithfulness a man will sit on it—one from the  
house of David—one who in judging seeks justice  
and speeds the cause of righteousness.



## Isaiah 26:9

My soul yearns for you in the night;  
in the morning my spirit longs for you.  
When your judgments come upon the earth,  
the people of the world learn righteousness.



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# Who benefits?

The orphan  
The widow  
The immigrant  
The poor

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## Deuteronomy 10:17-19

For the Lord your God is God of gods  
and Lord of lords, the great God,  
mighty and awesome, who shows  
no partiality and accepts no bribes.



## Deuteronomy 10:17-19

<sup>18</sup> He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing.



## Deuteronomy 10:17-19

<sup>19</sup> And you are to love those who are foreigners,  
for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt.





## Isaiah 1:17

Learn to do right; seek justice.

Defend the oppressed.

Take up the cause of the fatherless;  
plead the case of the widow.



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## Isaiah 1:23

Your rulers are rebels, partners with thieves;  
they all love bribes and chase after gifts.  
They do not defend the cause of the fatherless;  
the widow's case does not come before them.



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Why does God care about it?





## Isaiah 30:18

Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you;  
therefore he will rise up to show you compassion.

For the Lord is a God of justice.  
Blessed are all who wait for him!





## Isaiah 61:8

“For I, the Lord, love justice;  
I hate robbery and wrongdoing.

In my faithfulness I will reward my people  
and make an everlasting covenant with them.






## Isaiah 5:16

But the Lord Almighty will be exalted by his justice, and the holy God will be proved holy by his righteous acts.



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# Why does God care about it?

1. By addressing unjust social structures:
  - a. Legal systems that favor the privileged  
(Leviticus 19:15; Isaiah 10:1-2)
  - b. Exploitation of the poor by those in power  
(1 Kings 21)



# Why does God care about it?

1. By addressing unjust social structures:
  - c. Unjust lending practices  
(Deuteronomy 24:10-13; 2 Kings 4)
  - d. Charging excessive interest on loans  
(Exodus 22:25-27)





# Why does God care about it?

1. By addressing unjust social structures:
  - e. Paying unjustly low wages  
(Deuteronomy 24:14-15; James 5:1-6)
  - f. Unjust distribution of resources  
(Amos 4:1, 5:11-15, 6:1-7)



# Why does God care about it?

1. By addressing unjust social structures
2. By upholding and defending the cause of the poor (Psalm 82:3-4)





# Why does God care about it?

1. By addressing unjust social structures
2. By upholding and defending the cause of the poor (Psalm 82:3-4)
3. By not demonstrating scorn toward the needy (Proverbs 17:5)



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## Proverbs 14:31

Whoever oppresses the poor  
shows contempt for their Maker,  
but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.

## Isaiah 42:1, 3b-4a

<sup>1</sup> “Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen one in whom I delight;  
I will put my Spirit on him,  
and he will bring justice to the nations.



## Isaiah 42:1, 3b-4a

<sup>3b</sup> In faithfulness he will bring forth justice;  
<sup>4a</sup> he will not falter or be discouraged  
till he establishes justice on earth.



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# How do we do it?

## Relief

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# How do we do it?

## Relief Development



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# How do we do it?

Relief  
Development  
Reform



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“Calling for Justice in an Unjust World”