



## Approaching God

### Begin your time with an opening prayer

Take a moment to quiet your heart and ask God to help you experience his presence today. Ask Him to free you from any distractions as you begin to read and meditate on today's passages.

### Today's Theme: God is Just

God is righteous. He is the standard for all that is just and fair.

## Bible Reading, Study & Meditation - Slowly Read the Following Passages

**Start with Engaging the Text: Take a few minutes to highlight, circle, or underline key words.**

### Deuteronomy 32:3-4

**3** I will proclaim the name of the LORD. Oh, praise the greatness of our God! **4** He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he.

### John 5:19-30

**19** Jesus gave them this answer: "Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. **20** For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does. Yes, and he will show him even greater works than these, so that you will be amazed. **21** For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it. **22** Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son, **23** that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him. **24** "Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life. **25** Very truly I tell you, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. **26** For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. **27** And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man. **28** "Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice **29** and come out—those who have done what is good will

rise to live, and those who have done what is evil will rise to be condemned. **30** By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me.

### Psalms 146:5-9

**5** Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God. **6** He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them— he remains faithful forever. **7** He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets prisoners free, **8** the LORD gives sight to the blind, the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down, the LORD loves the righteous. **9** The LORD watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked. **10** The LORD reigns forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD.

### Romans 2:6-11

**6** God "will repay each person according to what they have done." **7** To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. **8** But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger. **9** There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile; **10** but glory, honor and peace for everyone who does good: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. **11** For God does not show favoritism.

## Meditation - GOD IS JUST

### Read the short essay from He Reads Truth

We are often unsure what to make of our just God. But His righteousness can and should be cause for celebration, a source of immense comfort in a world where earthly justice falls short. We ache for justice when we experience the ramifications of sin, both on a personal and a systemic scale. When something we love is violated, wounded, or broken, we don't respond with indifference—we cry out, demanding accountability. If we, with our limited perspective, are so affected by injustice, how much more does God demand justice when His standard of what is good is not upheld?

God loves more deeply and thoroughly than we could ever imagine. He loves perfectly. When proclaiming Himself to Moses, God says He is “a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger and abounding in faithful love and truth, maintaining faithful love to a thousand generations, forgiving iniquity, rebellion, and sin. But he will not leave the guilty unpunished” (Exodus 34:6–7). God's understanding of guilt is also perfect, because He is all-knowing, holy, and infinite. He has no statute of limitations. He is not swayed by false testimony or inconclusive evidence. He is the perfect witness, who searches and knows every heart, every intention, every action (Job 28:24; Psalm 69:5). He is “faithful forever, executing justice for the exploited,” even when our lives are not long enough to see it (Psalm 146:7).

Unlike what we experience from one another on earth, God is not faulty or vindictive. He does not overlook sin, nor does He demand more than what is just. This is good news, because we are not only victims of sin and injustice; we are also perpetrators. And yet the steep price our guilt demands is a price Christ already paid on the cross. And “if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).

Jesus tells us He has been given the right to pass judgment, and that He gives life to those who hear His Word and believe it (John 5:24). Our just Judge is also our Savior. He alone can mend the brokenhearted and offer hope to the unrighteous.

*(from the website: [hereadstruth.com](http://hereadstruth.com))*

## Daily Reflection Questions

1. What 1 or 2 verses of today's scripture passages most stood out to you? What was significant for you in those verses?
2. How would you briefly summarize what it means that “God is Just” in your own words?
3. In what areas of your life right now do you most need to believe and trust in this particular attribute of God? How might your life be different if you were able to trust and truly believe in God's justice?

## Close in Prayer:

- What can I **REJOICE IN** as a result of today's study?
- What do I need to **REPENT OF** as a result of today's study?
- What do I want to **REQUEST FROM** God today?