

# Gospel Shaped Mercy and Justice

## I. Introduction

## II. A passion for justice and mercy flows from the biblical gospel.

### A. The gospel gives clarity to mercy and justice.

**Matthew 28:18-20** All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

#### What is the gospel? (Zoom-In & Zoom-Out)

- What is the message a person must believe in order to be saved?
- What is the whole good news of Christianity?

**Matthew 4:17, 23** From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand... And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues & proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people."

**Isaiah 61:1, 2** The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn...

**Acts 10:36-43** As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all)...To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

**1 Corinthians 15:1-5** Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you... For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

#### Summary:

1. The declaration of the kingdom of God with all its blessings must be accompanied with the means of how to enter (Jesus and the cross).
2. It is scriptural to share the gospel only in terms of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.
3. Non-Christians do not live a kingdom life or do kingdom work.

**Matthew 25:31-40** “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’”

## **B. The gospel gives a call to mercy and justice.**

**Isaiah 58:6, 7** “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?”

**Psalm 146:7-9** ...who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous. The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless...

**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?

**Galatians 2:9-10** ...and when James and Cephas and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given to me, they gave the right hand of fellowship to Barnabas and me, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. Only, they asked us to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.

**James 1:27** Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

**James 2:14-18** What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? 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. But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

**Galatians 6:10** So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

## **III. Conclusion & Application**