

The Fear of God Part 18

Psalm 82 - Exercise Justice

“1 God standeth in the congregation of the mighty; he judgeth among the gods. 2 How long will ye judge unjustly, and accept the persons of the wicked? Selah. 3 Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy. 4 Deliver the poor and needy: rid them out of the hand of the wicked. 5 They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course. 6 I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most High. 7 But ye shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes. 8 Arise, O God, judge the earth: for thou shalt inherit all nations.” (Psalm 82:1-8 KJV)

God is the judge over all the earth. And He delegated that ministry of exercising justice to His church, to the saints who fear Him and live in obedience to His Word and commands.

“1 God standeth in the congregation of the mighty; he judgeth among the gods.” (Psalm 82:1 KJV) The church is the institute of God on earth and is the house of justice and the place of exercising judgment. The church is the congregation of the saints who delights in God and in His Word and commands. The church uses the Word of God in evaluating situations and dealing with various issues of life and sins. Jesus is the head of the church and everyone in the Church of God is under the Word of God as we are aware that God, the Holy Spirit, stands and is present in His church among His saints.

“he judgeth among the gods.” What meant here with the statement, ***“among the gods”***, that does not mean there is another god or gods, but means that with God in exercising and executing judgment are His saints, the priests, who are ordained by God to lead His church. God said to Moses through the advice of Jethro his father in law, to set judges from among those he was teaching to do the office of judge as we can read here: ***“13 And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses sat to judge the people: and the people stood by Moses from the morning unto the evening. 14 And when Moses' father in law saw all that he did to the people, he said, What is this thing that thou doest to the people? why sittest thou thyself alone, and all the people stand by thee from morning unto even? 15 And Moses said unto his father in law, Because the people come unto me to enquire of God: 16 When they have a matter, they come unto me; and I judge between one and another, and I do make them know the statutes of God, and his laws. 17 And Moses' father in law said unto him, The thing that thou doest is not good. 18 Thou wilt surely wear away, both thou, and this people that is with thee: for this thing is too heavy for thee; thou art not able to perform it thyself alone. 19 Hearken now unto my voice, I will give thee counsel, and God shall be with thee: Be thou for the people to God-ward, that thou mayest bring the causes unto God: 20 And thou shalt teach them ordinances and laws, and shalt shew them the way wherein they must walk, and the work that they must do. 21 Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens: 22 And let them judge the people at all seasons: and it shall be, that every great matter they shall bring unto thee, but every small matter they shall judge: so shall it be easier for thyself, and they shall bear the burden with thee. 23 If thou shalt do this thing, and God command thee so, then thou shalt be able to endure, and all this people shall also go to their place in peace. 24 So***

Moses hearkened to the voice of his father in law, and did all that he had said. 25 And Moses chose able men out of all Israel, and made them heads over the people, rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens. 26 And they judged the people at all seasons: the hard causes they brought unto Moses, but every small matter they judged themselves.” (Exodus 18:13-26 KJV) The purpose for Moses to set up the judges with him was to help him in the office of the judge and carry the burden with him so he will be sustained, and for his leadership to be better in serving the people and achieving the purpose of God for them.

In ***Psalm 82*** verse ***1*** when says, ***“he judgeth among the gods”***, the meaning of gods here as we mentioned is the judges, and now in the New Testament are the saints who stand with God to judge and deal with sin. About the saints to be judges for the church and the world, Paul wrote the following: ***“2 Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? 3 Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life? 4 If then ye have judgments of things pertaining to this life, set them to judge who are least esteemed in the church.” (1 Corinthians 6:2-4 KJV)*** So ***Psalm 82*** can be applied even to our life as a church today.

At the time of Moses God entrusted His work at the tabernacle of the congregation to the priests, and in the New Testament we are the royal priesthood of God as Peter declared, ***“9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light;” (1 Peter 2:9 KJV)*** With such then we are accountable to God in pertain to the content of ***Psalm 82***.

The church should realize and accept that is placed on earth to be the mouth piece of God and an instrument of exercising justice and implementing God’s will, plan and purpose among His people. **Therefore you need to prepare yourself for such by committing yourself to live in holiness and in accordance to the Word of God and be willing to exercise the justice of God in dealing with sin that is among His people.**

“2 How long will ye judge unjustly, and accept the persons of the wicked?” (Psalm 82:2 KJV) What had happened and what is going on is that the church had failed God in the matter of executing just judgment. The church and the saints of God, the royal priests who lead His church, and who supposed to be the judges of God had failed God by judging unjustly. They accepted the wicked by condoning, covering and approving his sins. They are doing the opposite. The wicked because they have power and influence, the leaders of the church and God’s workers instead of condemning the wicked who do wrong, they will maintain him because he is powerful. The church leaders or workers who do not want to suffer in facing the wicked they will compromise and keep things go wrong in order that their privileges will not be affected. The wicked who has influence will fight back when his sin is confronted and dealt with by the church leaders. The church leaders or workers who compromise they do that because first they don’t fear God and second they don’t trust God that He can provide all their needs if they will stand with God against the sins of the wicked person. God here was asking His church, ***“How long will ye judge unjustly, and accept the persons of the wicked?”*** God was sad and grieving that His church was corrupted and became unfaithful to Him.

The church had allowed various sin and sinful practices to enter inside, like immoralities in the form of boyfriend and girlfriend, dating, courting, divorce and remarriage, live-in relationship, and allowing the single mother or single father to marry neither the father nor the mother of her or his child or children.

The church had allowed mobiles and gadgets in the hands of the youths and children that corrupted them, spoiled their minds and attitudes with games, news, and exposed them to the sin of immoralities.

The church had allowed lot of feasts of idols to enter the church as the celebration of Christmas after the sun god of the heathen; with its Santa Claus, the Christmas tree, laziness with the long holidays of 2-3 weeks, the exchange of gifts, the banquets, and lavish spending. All this was done by the pagan for their sun god in their celebrations. That feast of pagans was Christianized by the Catholic Church and till this day the Christian churches are infected with all the above mentioned practices that are totally non Biblical.

The church had allowed the New Year celebration, the celebration of birthdays and wedding anniversaries; all are events and celebrations glorifying men and not God. Again such celebrations have taken its roots from the world and not from the Scriptures and got adapted into God's church. The church had allowed Father's Day and Mother's Day celebrations, Halloween (Harvest), All Saints Day, Valentine's Day, Pastor's Month, First girl celebration, and you can add more to the list, for almost every culture and ethnic group had added certain idols and days for celebration, without any Biblical reason, into the life of the church. All are taken from the world and introduced into the church.

The church had adopted the idols of greed, the love of money, and covetousness, corruption, wrong motive in serving God, and even some churches became places to promote businesses and financial platforms, thinking that life will become better with such. **But put it in your mind, the more you are departed from the truth the more you are in poverty.**

Adding to the above sins and idols, and the rest of the sins that were not mentioned, the church now a day is allowing and condoning the sin of homosexuality and the transgender relationships and marriages.

Based on that account of sins, idol worship and sinful practices, then you need to cleanse yourself from all such and stand with God to admonish others not to continue in them. In addition you need to work with God to deal with such idols and sinful practices and cleans His church from all such that had come from the world.

***"3 Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy. 4 Deliver the poor and needy: rid them out of the hand of the wicked."* (Psalm 82:3-4 KJV)** God wants His church to deliver the weak people from the hand of the wicked and the power of darkness that is pushing the weak to fall in sin and do wicked things. The wicked people are under the power of Satan, and when the church chose to face sin and wickedness, then devil and the power of darkness will start to fight back aggressively. But the church should continue to do right and what is in line with God's will, trusting the Lord that He will fight for His church and protect His people as He promised, ***"18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."* (Matthew**

***16:18 KJV)* Be strong and courageous, God shall fight for His church and will protect you and preserve you as you are willing to serve Him and do what is needful to bring holiness, righteousness and justice to the life of His church and His people.**

There are people they cannot fight and get delivered from the oppression of the evil one. The church should help such categories and fight on their behalf to get them delivered out from the power of the devil, ***"8 Open thy mouth for the dumb in the cause of all such as are appointed to destruction. 9 Open thy mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy."* (Proverbs 31:8-9 KJV)** Job obeyed God's instruction in this regard in doing his ministry as we read here: ***"12 Because I delivered the poor that cried, and the fatherless, and him that had none to help him. 13 The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon me: and I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy. 14 I put on righteousness, and it clothed me: my judgment was as a robe and a diadem. 15 I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. 16 I was a father to the poor: and the cause which I knew not I searched out. 17 And I brake the jaws of the wicked, and plucked the spoil out of his teeth."* (Job 29:12-17)** Therefore, go forward and do God's instruction, and ***"rid them out of the hand of the wicked."*** **Stretch out your hand to the poor and needy and rescue them. Help those who are oppressed to relief them, and work out to bring justice and deliverance to those who are abused.**

***"5 They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course:"* (Psalm 82:5 KJV)** Instead of satisfying the interest of God, the saints behaved as if they are ignorant of what God's want them to do. They chose to compromise and protect the wicked, therefore they chose the dark way of life, and caused others to err, and it became as if wickedness is the correct theme. As the result of that, all the foundations and the principles of Godly life became out of their places, and the right way of life started to be hated by the people. The church today with all the compromises that keep and practice is not only a bad example but a wrong example to follow. The church leaders and the workers of God should direct the people Heaven-ward and not hell-ward. If the true picture that God is ordained disturbed by the wrong example of the church and their leaders and workers, then God's name will be blaspheme among the gentiles as we can read here, ***"17 Behold, thou art called a Jew, and restest in the law, and makest thy boast of God, 18 And knowest his will, and approvest the things that are more excellent, being instructed out of the law; 19 And art confident that thou thyself art a guide of the blind, a light of them which are in darkness, 20 An instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, which hast the form of knowledge and of the truth in the law. 21 Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal? 22 Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege? 23 Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God? 24 For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written."* (Romans 2:17-24 KJV)** It reaches now the stage that those who do wrong are praised and those who correct sinners and rebuke evil doers they are rejected, hated and persecuted. **Therefore with such, the more needed for the church and for you today, to stand with God against sin and against those do wrong and those who condone them and cover them up.**

***"6 I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most High."* (Psalm 82:6 KJV)** God here had bestowed on His people the title of the children of God. Therefore His saints, the priests, the judges; those who lead His church and His people are required to apply and

exercise justice and to deal with sin and wickedness in a proper way because that is their responsibility and ministry before God. They are appointed as judges by God to work on His behalf in His church to declare and exercise His will to the people. This is a privilege given to His children to be honored to the position of judges in their service to God. **Therefore the message is more encouraging to you, as being part of His church, to get revive and once again to stand with God using the authority that God had given you to cleans your people and those under your care from sin and wickedness.**

“7 But ye shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes.” (Psalm 82:7 KJV) When the church leaders and the workers of God fail God in exercising justice and implementing the rules and the discipline of God, then the Lord will reject such leaders and workers and they will be no more to be considered God’s children, but they will be as other common people who do not believe in God or commit their lives to serve Him. They will not make it to Heaven but will go to hell with others who has no regard toward God. **Therefore as you hear, the message, is a warning for you to earnestly repent and come out from worldliness, greed, immoralities, corruption and compromises and come back to God and start to do what it right and just and the assignments that God had given you so you will not end up in hell, but instead you will be in Heaven after your death, and will be with Jesus when He will come to take us.**

“8 Arise, O God, judge the earth: for thou shalt inherit all nations.” (Psalm 82:8 KJV) When those who lead the church and do God’s work fail God, then the Lord Himself will judge and discipline His people and will impart His judgment on them using the non believers. When the church is wayward and behave like those who have no law and no God, then the Lord will use the non believer to punish and bring His judgment upon His church. God used the Babylonian to destroy His temple in Jerusalem in 587 BC when the priests already were in idol worship. And again God destroyed the rebuilt second temple on 70 AC by the hand of the Romans as a consequence of the Jewish rejection to Christ. **God will use cruel judgment against His church to discipline the church leaders and workers, and to disqualify their ministry in front of the heathen to make the heathen understand that our God is the Lord who do not condone or cover-up sin.**

My dear and beloved: There is no another way for you to escape from doing your responsibility before God. The church is forced by God to exercise justice and implement judgment. God will ultimately deal with all the compromises of His church and His people because He is a God of justice who abide with His Word. **Therefore church, and all you who hear, repent of all your sins, wickedness, corruption, injustice, the abuse of grace and all compromises and the condoning of sin, and commit yourself to God to serve Him in accordance to His decrees and stipulations, and in doing all your assignments that please God.**

Let us pray . . .

My Prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the death to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that rebuked me and gave me correction. Lord thank you for teaching me new things that I came to know you better and know your will. Lord thank you for the authority that I received from you to do your work and the assignments that you entrusted to me.*

Come now to God and repent of all your sins and wickedness. Renounce from your life immoralities, idols worship, worldliness, greed, love of money, and injustice. Renounce doing you own plan and will. Renounce your fear of man and your compromises. Renounce your non willingness to serve God and suffer for Him. Renounce your non willingness to stand with God and deal with sin and wicked people. Renounce your non willingness to help those who are poor and needy and those who are under injustice.

Lord forgive me, I repent from the following sins _____.

Lord I commit myself to stand firm, to fear you and not to fear man and to implement your will in my life and in the life of my family and the people who are under my spiritual care.

Lord I am willing to stand with you against this sin _____, and against the following people who do such _____.

Lord sustain me, protect me and provide for me to achieve that as I committed my life to serve you. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.

Lord thank you for my Brothers and Sisters, who repented from their sins, corruption and compromises, and came back to you. Lord uphold them with your grace and mercy. Lord restore them back to you and sustain them in their life to you. Lord listen to their prayers and cry as they repented of their sins and amended their ways. Lord protect them and provide all their needs, so they will continue to live their lives unto you and serve you and do what you had asked them to do.

Lord bless us as your church and uphold us with your grace and mercy so that we will continue to serve you. Lord we repent of all our compromises, fear of man and injustice. Lord we commit our lives to you to cleanse ourselves and our families and your church from the sins that we had encounter in this message and whatever sin you are going to expose. Lord we commit ourselves to stand firm to deal with the sinful practices; to correct your people and to rebuke and deal with those who persist in their sins, corruption and compromises. Lord refill us once again with the Holy Spirit and give us the spiritual gifts that we need in our lives to go on and serve you, to evangelize, to reach new people with the gospel of Jesus and to make new disciples, and train new workers to plant new Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, ‘Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.’ Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

The Fear of God Part 18. Psalm 82 - Exercise Justice. Psalm 82:1-8. Exodus 18:13-26. 1 Corinthians 6:2-4. 1 Peter 2:9. Matthew 16:18. Proverbs 31:8-9. Job 29:12-17. Romans 2:17-24.

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