

EZEKIEL: JUSTICE FOR ALL

WEEK 1: CHAPTERS 1-3,33 (GOD OF JUSTICE)

WARM UP: What are the social justice movements active in our world at the moment? Which of these do you feel personally connect to (or against!)?

Read Ezekiel 1

1. What are your first reactions to reading that? What stood out to you?
2. The big message of this vision is clear: God is sovereign over all... all strength, all knowledge, all creatures. His throne sits above the whole universe! What impact would this have had on Ezekiel, amongst the exiles in Babylon.
3. When you look at the world today, who seems to be in control? How do you feel as a Christian in it? What impact does this vision have on you?

Read Ezekiel 2-3

4. Ezekiel gets called to a pretty unpleasant task: go tell a rebellious people that God's judgement is about to come on them, p.s. they're not going to listen. How would you have felt if that had been you?
5. Ezekiel was told to eat a scroll of lament and mourning and woe, but it tasted as sweet as honey. What do you think the significance of this might be?
6. In 3:16-21 God lays out clearly Ezekiel's personal responsibility to obey Him and speak God's message of warning to the people. What responsibility do we have today to warn people of God's judgement on sin?

Read Ezekiel 33:10-20

7. This is a clear explanation of God's justice: if you obey God you will find life, if you disobey God you will come under his judgement, regardless of your history (whether good or bad). How does this relate to the gospel of Jesus?
8. What other definitions of justice do people in our society have? Why might some people find God's definition "unfair", like the passage mentions?
9. What response do you need to make to the reality of God's justice? Are you doing what is right and living in obedience to him? Do you need his mercy?

PRAY: For a reverent fear of God; for confidence in his sovereignty over all; for courage to warn others of his judgement; and to define justice as He does, and daily seek His justice (& mercy) in your life.