

“He Has Shown You O Man What Is Good”

Micah 6:8

## “He Has Shown You O Man What Is Good”

- Micah 6:8 - “He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?”

## “He Has Shown You O Man What Is Good”

- Micah 6:8 reminds us of the conditions God set on His promises to Abraham
  - Gen. 18:19 - “For I have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the LORD, to do righteousness and justice, that the LORD may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him.”

# “He Has Shown You O Man What Is Good”

- He told Moses the same
  - Deut. 10:12-13 - “And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, 13 and to keep the commandments of the LORD and His statutes which I command you today for your good?”

## “He Has Shown You O Man What Is Good”

- David, Samuel, Hosea, Isaiah, and Jesus emphasize God's preference for obedience, knowledge, and mercy over sacrifice and burnt offerings
  - Psalm 51:15-16 - “For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. 17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart-These, O God, You will not despise.”

# “He Has Shown You O Man What Is Good”

- 1Sam. 15:22 - “Then Samuel said: Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams.”
- Hosea 6:6 - “For I desire mercy and not sacrifice, And the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.”
- Matt. 23:23 - “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone.”

# “He Has Shown You O Man What Is Good”

- Isa. 1:13-17 - “Bring no more futile sacrifices; Incense is an abomination to Me. The New Moons, the Sabbaths, and the calling of assemblies-I cannot endure iniquity and the sacred meeting. 14 Your New Moons and your appointed feasts My soul hates; They are a trouble to Me, I am weary of bearing them. 15 When you spread out your hands, I will hide My eyes from you; Even though you make many prayers, I will not hear. Your hands are full of blood. 16 Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; Put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil, 17 Learn to do good; Seek justice, Rebuke the oppressor; Defend the fatherless, Plead for the widow.”

# To Do Justly

- “For man to do justly, he must render unto everyone that which is due to them; not what is due them in men's eyes, but what is due them according to God's will.” (Adam Clarke)
- “To do justly means to act toward God and man according to the Divine standard of righteousness revealed in His law toward God and man” (Homer Hailey)

# To Do Justly

- To give God His due
  - Mark 12:28-30 - “Then one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, perceiving that He had answered them well, asked Him, Which is the first commandment of all? 29 Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is: Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one. 30 And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first commandment.”

# To Do Justly

- To give your neighbor his due
  - Mark 12:31 - “And the second, like it, is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.”

# To Do Justly

- To give to yourself what you are due
  - 1Cor. 6:19 - “Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?”
  - Gal. 5:16-17 - “I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.”

# To Do Justly

- Failure to do justly was one of the reasons Israel went into captivity
  - Zech. 8:16-17 - “These are the things you shall do: Speak each man the truth to his neighbor; Give judgment in your gates for truth, justice, and peace; 17 Let none of you think evil in your heart against your neighbor; And do not love a false oath. For all these are things that I hate, Says the LORD.”

# To Do Justly

- Zech. 7:8-14 - "Then the word of the LORD came to Zechariah, saying, 9 Thus says the LORD of hosts: Execute true justice, Show mercy and compassion Everyone to his brother. 10 Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, The alien or the poor. Let none of you plan evil in his heart Against his brother. 11 But they refused to heed, shrugged their shoulders, and stopped their ears so that they could not hear. 12 Yes, they made their hearts like flint, refusing to hear the law and the words which the LORD of hosts had sent by His Spirit through the former prophets. Thus great wrath came from the LORD of hosts. 13 Therefore it happened, that just as He proclaimed and they would not hear, so they called out and I would not listen," says the LORD of hosts. 14 But I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations which they had not known. Thus the land became desolate after them, so that no one passed through or returned; for they made the pleasant land desolate."

# To Love Mercy

- “Mercy is that benevolence, mildness or tenderness of heart, which makes it possible for a person to overlook injuries, or to treat an offender better than he deserves. Mercy is the disposition that tempers justice, and encourages an injured person to forgive trespasses and injuries, and to forbear punishment, or inflict less than law or justice will warrant. In this sense, there is perhaps no word in our language precisely synonymous with mercy. That which comes nearest to it is grace. It implies benevolence, tenderness, mildness, pity or compassion, and clemency, but exercised only towards offenders.”  
(Nelson Price)

# To Love Mercy

- “To love mercy means to show a compassionate warm-heartedness toward man; not merely to treat others fairly, but to show mercy when mistreated themselves.”  
(Homer Hailey)

# To Love Mercy

- Mercy is one of the primary characteristics of God
  - Micah 7:18 - “Who is a God like You, Pardoning iniquity And passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, Because He delights in mercy.”
  - Psalm 130:3 - “If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?”
- While God is just, He delights in mercy. It is because of His mercy that any of us are alive - Eph. 2:4-10

# To Love Mercy

- Because God delights in mercy, He expects His children to delight in mercy as well
  - Luke 6:36 - “Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.”
  - Prov. 3:3 - “Let not mercy and truth forsake you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart”
  - Prov. 11:17 - “The merciful man does good for his own soul, But he who is cruel troubles his own flesh.”

# To Walk Humbly With Your God

- “This involves living in humble and submissive obedience to His desire and will. It can only happen when we recognize the absolute holiness and righteousness of God.” (Homer Hailey)

# To Walk Humbly With Your God

- The humble of heart and spirit greatly pleases God
  - Isa. 57:15 - “For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, With him who has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.”
  - Isa. 66:1-2 - “Thus says the LORD: Heaven is My throne, And earth is My footstool. Where is the house that you will build Me? And where is the place of My rest? 2 For all those things My hand has made, And all those things exist, Says the LORD. But on this one will I look: On him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, And who trembles at My word.”

# To Walk Humbly With Your God

- It is only through a humbling of ourselves that we will be allowed to walk with God
  - 1Peter 5:5 - “Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.”
  - Rom. 11:20 - “...You stand by faith. Do not be haughty, but fear”
  - Rom. 12:3 - “For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.”

# What Is Good?

- “The 'good' that [God] requires is the doing of His will. To accomplish that lofty (yet necessary) goal, man must act toward God and man according to the Divine standard of righteousness revealed in God's will; he must show every man a compassionate warm-heartedness; and walk humbly in recognition of the absolute holiness and righteousness of God by submitting to God through obedience to His desire and will. (Hailey, A Commentary on the Minor Prophets, p. 214.)

# What Is Good?

- There is no “Christian To Do List.” It is just not that simple. It is *far more* than merely keeping commandments; it is transforming our nature into the nature of Jesus
  - Matt. 11:29 - “Take My yoke upon you *and learn from Me*, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”

# What Is Good?

- Even though we live under a different covenant, the Lord still requires us:
  - To do justly
  - To love mercy
  - To walk humbly with our God