

The Justice of God, a Love Story: Part 2 — Happy Ever After Micah 4:1-8

God's judgments - mishpat - what is right and wrong. instructions by which we are to live. He is the lawmaker, the lawgiver. All based on loving God and loving people.

God's judging -shaphat – law enforcement. He governs, leads, decides, rewards, punishes. He judges all aspects of life – in the home and in the community.

Justice - Micah 3:2 - love good, hate evil. / Micah 3:9 - love justice, do what is right

God's justice and His righteousness and His uprightness are closely related Ps 97:2

Righteousness - tzedekah: tsadek - to be just, righteous, to conform to an ethical or moral standard.

Uprightness – Yashar – straight, right, correct, that which is appropriate and proper and pleasing.

God's justice - God does what is right, makes the right decisions. He judges obedience as good and rewards it. He judges sin as bad and punishes it. He always does what is right.

In the love story of the justice of God...

The justice of God the Father rewarded the perfect obedience of Jesus the Son: Jesus was chosen by God to be our Savior and King.

God the Son became the Son of Man so that He could die the death of man and suffer the wrath of God against all our sins.

God's justice rescued us from the eternal horrors of death that we deserved.

But how can we say that God was just when He made Jesus, the sinless one, suffer in our place?

God's justice requires correct, appropriate punishment for sin. God's standard: sin brings death.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin *is* death

Every person born on earth has the judgment of sin on him/her: **John 3:18** he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

Justice was carried out by Jesus Himself – loving good and hating evil, He did what was good and unselfish.

Jesus loved God's justice – He accepted God's law that sin must be paid for.

Jesus loves justice – He loves doing what is right for people, and the basis of doing what is right is love.

^{NKJ} **Matthew 20:28** The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.

^{NKJ} **John 10:11** I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.

^{CSB} **John 15:13** No one has greater love than this, that someone would lay down his life for his friends.

Galatians 1:3-4 Our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴ who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father...

^{ESV} **Ephesians 5:2** And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

^{CSB} **Titus 2:14** He gave Himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to cleanse for Himself a special people, eager to do good works.

^{NET} **Revelation 1:5** (Jesus Christ) the one who loves us and has set us free from our sins at the cost of his own blood.

Jesus' resolute intention to carry out the will of God, by giving His body on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for sins.

Hebrews 10:5-7 ⁵ Therefore, as He was coming into the world, He said: (Jesus said:) "You did not want sacrifice and offering, but You prepared a body for Me. ⁶ You did not delight in whole burnt offerings and sin offerings. ⁷ Then I said, "See, I have come-- it is written about Me in the volume of the scroll-- to do Your will, O God!"

Jesus gave Himself as a substitute for us – accepting and agreeing with God's justice.

Luke 22:19 ¹⁹ And He took bread, gave thanks, broke it, gave it to them, and said, "This is My body, which is given for you. **Luke 22:20** ²⁰ In the same way He also took the cup after supper and said, "This cup is the new covenant *established by My blood*; it is shed for you.

Jesus was rewarded for obeying the will of God and giving Himself as a substitute for us.

Hebrews 2:9 ⁹ But we do see Jesus.....crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death.

The blessings of justice under the reign of King Jesus:

He will carry out God's justice on the wicked, unbelieving people who have stood against Jesus and His people.

75 day interval - before the beginning of the Millennial Kingdom

Revelation 12:6 The woman fled into the wilderness, where she had a place prepared by God, to be fed there for 1,260 days.

Daniel 12:11-12 From the time the daily sacrifice is abolished and the abomination of desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days. ¹² Blessed is the one who waits for and reaches 1,335 days.

1. The removal of the abomination of desolation – some type of image of the antichrist will be set up in the temple at the midpoint of the tribulation. **Dan 12:11**
2. The antichrist is resurrected
3. Antichrist and false prophet are cast alive into the lake of fire.

2 Thessalonians 2:8 ⁸ and then the lawless one will be revealed. The Lord Jesus will destroy him with the breath of His mouth and will bring him to nothing with the brightness of His coming.

Revelation 19:20 ²⁰ But the beast was taken prisoner, and along with him the false prophet, who had performed signs on his authority, by which he deceived those who accepted the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. Both of them were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur.

4. The humbling and binding of Satan into the abyss

Revelation 20:1-3 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven with the key to the abyss and a great chain in his hand. ² He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for 1,000 years. ³ He threw him into the abyss, closed it, and put a seal on it so that he would no longer deceive the nations until the 1,000 years were completed. After that, he must be released for a short time.

5. Judgment of the Living Gentiles: Sheep and Goat judgment Matthew 25:31-46

Matthew 25:31-34 ³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels¹ with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left. ³⁴ 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.

Matthew 25:41 Then He will also say to those on the left, 'Depart from Me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the Devil and his angels!

6. Resurrection of Old Testament saints

Daniel 12:1-2 There will be a time of distress such as never has occurred since nations came into being until that time. But at that time all your people who are found written in the book will escape. ² Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake, some to eternal life, and some to shame and eternal contempt.

7. Resurrection of Tribulation saints

Revelation 20:4 also saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony about Jesus and because of God's word, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and who had not accepted the mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with the Messiah for 1,000 years.