



THE JUSTICE OF GOD: A LOVE STORY

PART 1: HEARTBREAK

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- ❖ The people He chose, and made a covenant with, and provided for – did not return His love.
- ❖ The Lord confronted sins in His people that were blatant affronts to His justice, righteousness and uprightness.

HEARTBREAK – THE INJUSTICES OF THE LEADERS OF JUDAH

- ❖ **Planned** **evil** Micah 2:1
- ❖ **Coveted** **land and possessions**
Micah 2:1
- ❖ **Hated** **good** Micah 3:2
- ❖ **Loved** **evil** Micah 3:2
- ❖ **Robbed and murdered to satisfy**
their greed Micah 3:2-3
- ❖ **Abused** **the poor** Micah 3:2-3
- ❖ **Detested justice & perverted**
everything that was right Micah 3:9

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everything that was right Micah 3:9
- ❖ **Distorted** justice: accepting
bribes, giving wrong verdicts
Micah 3:11
- ❖ **Priests** received payment Micah
3:11
- ❖ **Prophets** preached false hope.
Micah 3:11
- ❖ **Thought** they were immune to
God's judgment. Micah 3:11

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- ❖ During Micah's day – they got **comfortable** with their sin.

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- ❖ We who know Jesus as our Savior have been freed from the power of sin (Romans 6)
- ❖ Sin still wants to take over our lives.
- ❖ Romans 6:13 And do not offer any parts of it (your body, your life) to sin as weapons for unrighteousness. But as those who are alive from the dead, offer yourselves to God, and all the parts of yourselves to God as weapons for righteousness.

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- ❖ Subtle sins: those which seem **acceptable** to us.
 1. they aren't **so bad**
 2. they aren't even **sin**
 3. we **don't even think** about them at all

HEARTBREAK

- ❖ The Sinfulness Of Sin - by Ralph Venning
- ❖ The Mischief Of Sin - by Thomas Watson
- ❖ The Anatomy Of Secret Sins – by Obadiah Sedgwich
- ❖ The Evil Of Evils Or The Exceeding Sinfulness Of Sin –
by Jeremiah Burroughs

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- ❖ Ungodliness may be defined as living one's everyday life with little or no thought of God, or of God's will, or of God's glory, or of one's dependence on God.
- ❖ One telling indicator of our tendency toward ungodliness is our meager desire to develop an intimate relationship with God.
- ❖

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- ❖ **Anxiety** is a distrust of God. When we give way to anxiety, we are in effect believing that God doesn't care for us and that He will not take care of us in the particular circumstances that trigger our anxiety of the moment.
- ❖ Anxiety is also a sin because it is a lack of **acceptance** of God's providence in our lives.

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- ❖ **Frustration** - usually involves being upset or even angry at whatever or whoever is blocking our plans.
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- ❖ **Discontentment** – can arise from ongoing and unchanging circumstances that we just don't like, whether it is a life circumstance, or something trivial that you just don't like.

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- ❖ Pride of **achievement** - remember that everything that we are, that we have, any skill, talent, any success comes from the blessing and work of God in our life

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- ❖ Pride of an **independent spirit** - resistance to authority, especially spiritual authority, having an unteachable attitude
- ❖ **Selfishness** in time and money and being inconsiderate, not thinking about how our actions impact another person
- ❖ **Lack of self-control** - *Self-control* is wise control of one's desires, cravings, impulses, emotions, and passions. It's saying no when we should say no.

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- ❖ **Anger** - something outside of us may be the *occasion* of our anger, it isn't the *cause* of our anger. It can find it's origin in another sin such as pride or selfishness or idolatry.

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- ❖ **Judgmentalism** - can look like being zealous for what is right, or having strong convictions, or opinions. Beware of equating opinions with truth.
- ❖ **Envy** - the painful, oftentimes resentful awareness of an advantage enjoyed by someone else, whenever we compare ourselves with anyone whose circumstances seem better than ours.

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- ❖ **Jealousy** - intolerance for rivalry, sin when we are afraid someone is going to become equal to or even superior to us
- ❖ **Competitiveness** - the urge to be the top person, to always win
- ❖ **Controlling** – the sin of seeking to control others to our advantage or to get what we want.

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❖ Sins of the tongue:

- ❖ Gossip
- ❖ Lying
- ❖ Slander
- ❖ Critical speech
- ❖ Harsh words
- ❖ Insults
- ❖ Sarcasm
- ❖ Ridicule. Any speech that tears down another person

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- ❖ **Worldliness**: being attached to, engrossed in, or pre-occupied with the things of this temporal life.
- ❖ **Colossians 3:2** Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.