

A Life of Right Relationships

[Psalm 50:6b](#) “*God Himself is judge*”

The Biblical idea of justice reveals not only a proper relationship with God, but a right relationship with other folk on the earth. We look at words like righteousness and justice, knowing that most modern people consider righteous as being moral, sexually chaste, and prayerful on a daily basis and even spending some time daily in the study of the Bible. However, a more Biblical insight comes from understanding the meanings of two Hebrew words:

TZADEQAH (ZE-DA-KAH) – meaning *a life of relationships*

MISHPAT (MISH-PA) – meaning *rectifying justice; caring for victims of unjust treatment; social concern*

These two important words are actually tied together, revealing that if individuals were *REALLY* properly related to God, then “*rectifying justice*” would not be necessary, because living on the divine plane would mean a right relationship with others. Since God is holy and just ([Isa. 4:3](#); [Rev. 15:4](#)), His holiness is composed of His righteousness and justice; and that *divine justice* can best be seen in the plan of redemption, and in the execution of that plan. This includes the vicarious, *efficacious* death of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross, which transferred the guilt of the sinner upon Himself, and satisfied the perfect justice of God. That penalty was exacted in full, and that allowed God our Father to be totally free to pardon and justify everyone who accepts His saving grace ([Romans 3:26](#); [8:1](#)). At the same time, God is equally free to justly condemn all who reject the divine provision of salvation ([John 3:18](#); [5:28-30](#); [Rev. 20:11-15](#)). Sin was bought and paid for in full, thus not allowing any efforts (works) of mankind to have anything to do with God’s free gift of redemption. *Efficacious* means effective, effectual, efficient, successful, worthwhile, and valuable.

[Psalm 50:6b](#) declares “*God is judge himself.*” What is a judge? What does a judge do? A judge is someone who decides what punishment is best for a guilty person who has broken the law. He must be absolutely fair and just. To be fair, the judge must declare the right punishment to be carried out.