

# Righteousness

## GREEK – DIKAIOSUNE

In the Greek New Testament, the word *DIKAIOSUNE* (δικαιοσύνη) has a powerful meaning.

- When translated *RIGHTEOUSNESS*, it means fair and equitable dealings with others.
  - When translated *JUSTICE*, it means the legal thinking of a judge based on his character.
1. Since God is infinitely holy and His holiness is composed of His righteousness and justice, then justice is ½ of the holiness of God.
  2. When we say that God is infinitely holy, that means infinite integrity. Integrity is composed of righteousness and justice. Integrity means soundness, character, honesty, uprightness, whole, unimpaired, honor.
  3. When this integrity or holiness is acting toward others, it is justice.
  4. Righteousness is the principle (accepted rule of action; a test of measuring) of integrity. Justice is the function (customary performance, to carry out normal work and practice) of integrity.
  5. In God's plan, there is *DEMAND* and there is *ACTION*.
  6. God's love for His integrity is revealed in righteousness, and God's hatred for sin is revealed in His justice.
  7. When righteousness approves – justice carries it out and when righteousness disapproves, justice carries it out.

## Righteousness (Continued)

8. God is objective – not subjective.
  - If He were subjective – a part of His character would collapse; He would be sentimental and say, “Everyone goes to Heaven.”
  - If subjective relative to His sovereignty, He would make everyone robots with no freewill and no human choice and He would choose who would go to Heaven.
  - If God acted in subjectivity relative to His omnipotence, He would be a tyrant and coerce in us every decision, thought and action.
  - God is not characterized by sentimentality, instability or emotionalism.
9. God’s nature does not and cannot change, therefore as long as He is what He is, His integrity *DEMANDS* and *EXECUTES*.
  - That which is contrary to His righteousness is *PUNISHED*.
  - That which is adjusted to justice is *BLESSED*.
10. Justice in blessing is not *PARTIALITY* – NO favoritism. Justice in punishment is not *VINDICTIVE*.
11. God has never left man on the short end of the stick. To the LOST, He demands righteousness and then makes available *IMPUTED RIGHTEOUSNESS*. To the SAVED, He demands righteousness and then makes available *MANIFESTED RIGHTEOUSNESS*.
12. When we begin to see God as he really is, then we see God related to God (*TRINITY*) – *THEN HIS PERSONALITY BECOMES SUPREME! WE ALSO SEE GOD RELATED TO US – THEN – HIS INTEGRITY (RIGHTEOUSNESS & JUSTICE) BECOMES SUPREME TO US!*