



In but not of the world

We're to be *sanctified*, not sterilized from culture.



The Bible is not disconnected from reality; it helps us see reality clearly and accurately.

“Shall not the Judge of all the earth do
what is just?”

Genesis 18:25

“... keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice.”

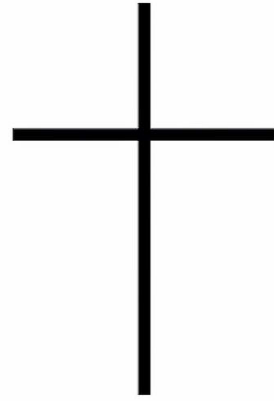
Genesis 18:19

Righteousness— the moral quality of a person,
an ethical standard.

Justice— “retributive” and “restorative”

↓
punishment/retribution

↓
well-being



The cross is where God's retributive and restorative justice meet.

Cruciform view of justice—

a view of justice that's formed by the cross (cruciform)

The Joseph Narrative – Genesis 37-50

The Crime of the Century



Injustice #1 – betrayal, deception, slavery

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Injustice #2 — false accusation, racism

Injustice #1 — betrayal, deception, slavery

Injustice #2 — false accusation, racism

Injustice #3 — wrongly condemned, imprisoned

“But the LORD was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison.”

Genesis 39:21

“For I was indeed **stolen** out of the land of the Hebrews, and here also **I have done nothing** that they should put me into the pit.”

Genesis 40:15

“Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph,
but **forgot** him.”

Genesis 40:23

“As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.”

Genesis 50:20



1) Acknowledge the good of reform

2) Learn the language of lament

Lament is an expression of confident
trust in God in the midst of suffering.

Solidarity in suffering.

“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.” ... “Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.”

Matthew 25:35-36, 40

**3) Choose joy and trust in the God
who is just**

Habakkuk: “So the law is paralyzed and justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous; so justice goes forth perverted.” (Hab 1:4)

God: “Look among the nations, and see; wonder and be astounded. For I am doing a work in your days that you would not believe if told.” (Hab 1:5)

Habakkuk: “Why do you idly look at traitors and **remain silent** when the wicked swallows up the man more righteous than he?” (Hab 1:13)

God: If it seems slow, **wait for it**; it will surely come; it will not delay.” ...
“but the righteous shall live by his faith.” (Hab 2:3-4)

“For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.” (Hab 2:14)

“But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.” (Amos 5:24)

“Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation.”

Habakkuk 3:17-19