
I want to KNOW YOU: the Attributes of God

JUST JUDGE

LESSON 26 *questions are based on the New International Version (NIV) 2011 edition.*

1. What truth, verse, or insight from knowing your **Merciful** God better was helpful to you?

2. Pray and ask God to open your mind and heart in new ways as He reveals Himself as a **Just Judge**; then read **Matthew 11**. When you think of God as **Judge**, does it bring up positive or negative emotions? Explain.

3. From **V1-3**, we know that rumors were flying about who Jesus was.
 - a) What did John want to know, and what strikes you about his questions, given his calling and experience with Jesus? (See **John 1:6-9, 29-34**).

 - b) What situation has caused you to doubt who God is or what He's allowed? And how does John's handling of his doubts instruct or encourage you?

4. Why do you think Jesus responded the way He did in **V4-6**, especially **V6**?

5. Jesus proceeded to tell the crowd about John. Of all the phrases He used to describe him in **V7-14**, which did you appreciate the most and why?

6. a) Read **V15-19**. How had the crowd **misjudged** John (**V18**) and Jesus (**V19**) using incorrect or incomplete information?

- b) When have you **misjudged** someone or been **misjudged** by others in a similar way?

c) In comparison, what does **Hebrews 4:12-13** say about how God **judges**?

7. From **V20-24**, why do you think Jesus condemned three towns: Chorazin, Bethsaida and Capernaum?

8. Jesus compared the **judgment** of Capernaum to the **judgment** of Sodom.

a) What kind of city was Sodom?

- **Genesis 13:13**
- **Genesis 19:4-5**
- **Ezekiel 16:49-50**
- **Jude 1:7**

b) Discuss how all the sins listed in the verses above plague our culture and even our churches today. What is the remedy to avoid God's judgment?

9. Jesus spoke often about *the Day of Judgment*. What do the following verses say about **The Judge** and/or the Day of **Judgment**?

- **Ecclesiastes 12:14**

- **Romans 2:5-6**

- **2 Corinthians 5:10**

- **Hebrews 9:27-28a**

10. What emotions do these descriptions of the Day of **Judgment** stir up in you?

11. Jesus followed His condemnation of the unrepentant towns by talking about His Father in **V25-27**. Write a truth from any part of these verses.

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12. a) After speaking of **judgment**, why do you think Jesus issued a tender invitation to “Come to Me” in **V28-30**?
- b) What part of this invitation warms your heart and why?
13. The tender heart of the Father is revealed in the Son’s invitation to the weary. What more do you find out about the heart of the Father as **Judge** in **Ezekiel 18:30-32**?
14. As you’ve gotten to know God better as **The Just Judge**,
- a) What words or phrases in **Romans 8:33-34** give you rest and assurance?
- b) Challenge: Read the often quoted verse, **1 John 1:9**. Why do you think the word, “just” is used instead of merciful.
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DIGGING DEEPER

1. a) All people will face the **Just Judge**. For unbelievers, it will be a punitive **judgment**; for believers, it will be an evaluative **judgment** (which includes rewards). What do the following verses say about the criteria for these rewards?
- **1 Corinthians 3:11-15**
 - **2 Timothy 4:8**
 - **Hebrews 6:10**
- b) What is your main “take away” from these verses?
2. a) Write out the Suggested Memory Verse: **2 Corinthians 5:10**
- b) Form a prayer to our **Just Judge**, inspired by this Lesson.

NAME

PRAYER REQUEST