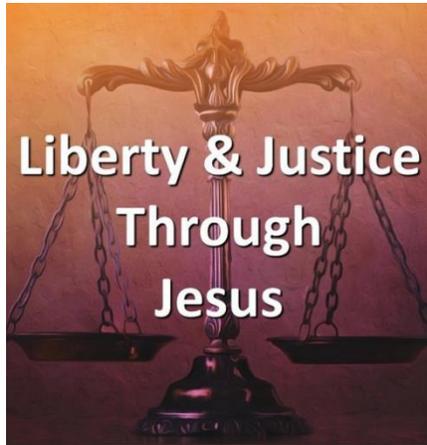


# Liberty And Justice Through Jesus

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Pastor Daniel Balcombe



## Liberty and Justice for Broken Families

Judges 11:1-11 (ESV)

Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty warrior, but he was the son of a prostitute. Gilead was the father of Jephthah. And Gilead's wife also bore him sons. And when his wife's sons grew up, they drove Jephthah out and said to him, "You shall not have an inheritance in our father's house, for you are the son of another woman." Then Jephthah fled from his brothers and lived in the land of Tob, and worthless fellows collected around Jephthah and went out with him. After a time the Ammonites made war against Israel. And when the Ammonites made war against Israel, the elders of Gilead went to bring Jephthah from the land of Tob. And they said to Jephthah, "Come and be our leader, that we may fight against the Ammonites." But Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, "Did you not hate me and drive me out of my father's house? Why have you come to me now when you are in distress?" And the elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, "That is why we have turned to you now, that you may go with us and fight against the Ammonites and be our head over all the inhabitants of Gilead." Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, "If you bring me home again to fight against the Ammonites, and the Lord gives them over to me, I will be your head." And the elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, "The Lord will be witness between us, if we do not do as you say." So Jephthah went with the elders of Gilead, and the people made him head and leader over them. And Jephthah spoke all his words before the Lord at Mizpah.

- The division and destruction of the God-designed family unit is a grievous sin that causes pain and suffering for multiple generations.

Matthew 19:3-6 (ESV)

And Pharisees came up to him and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful to divorce one's wife for any cause?" He answered, "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."

[Gods created order]

Malachi 2:15-16 (ESV)

Did he not make them one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union? And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth. "For the man who does not love his wife but divorces her, says the Lord, the God of Israel, covers his garment with violence, says the Lord of hosts. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and do not be faithless."

- What hope does the Gospel offer for broken families?
- How did Jephthah respond to his rejection?

Judges 11:3 (ESV)

Then Jephthah fled from his brothers and lived in the land of Tob, and worthless fellows collected around Jephthah and went out with him.

- Jephthah fled to Tob.
- Jephthah found a place of belonging with the worthless.
- Tob = good, pleasant, agreeable, better, excellent
- Flee to the goodness of God.

Psalms 139:7-14 (ESV)

Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me. If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night," even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you. For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.

Psalms 23:6 (ESV)

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalms 34:8 (ESV)

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

Psalms 73:28 (ESV)

But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord God my refuge, that I may tell of all your works.

Psalms 86:5 (ESV)

For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.

Psalms 100:5 (ESV)

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Psalms 118:8-9 (ESV)

It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes.

Psalms 119:68 (ESV)

You are good and do good; teach me your statutes.

- God's creation of the family unit was good for goodness' sake.

Genesis 2:18 (ESV)

Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."

Psalms 133:1 (ESV)

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

- When we flee to the goodness of God we can expect that in it we will find a family.

Psalms 68:5-6 (ESV)

Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation. God settles the solitary in a home; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.

- The family of God is made up of seemingly worthless individuals.
- Worthless = Empty

2 Kings 4:3 (ESV)

Then he said, "Go outside, borrow vessels from all your neighbors, empty vessels and not too few.

- The value of the vessel is based on what is inside.

2 Corinthians 4:7 (ESV)

But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.

- Though from the outside the church might seem worthless and empty, on the inside we are filled with the goodness of God because of the work of our rejected brother, Jesus Christ.

Isaiah 53:3 (ESV)

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Matthew 27:46 (ESV)

And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

- Jesus was rejected so that everyone else who has ever been rejected can belong.

- The church is the collection of the rejected and empty who are filled up and brought in by the goodness of Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 2:18-19 (NLT)

Now all of us can come to the Father through the same Holy Spirit because of what Christ has done for us. So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family.