



JUST CHURCH • Part 4

Just Worship

Why Justice is Essential to Worship

Isaiah 58:1-12

Eager Worship

Includes a Love for God's Ways

Isaiah 58:1-2

¹ “Shout it aloud, do not hold back. Raise your voice like a trumpet. Declare to my people their rebellion and to the descendants of Jacob their sins. ² For day after day they seek me out; they seem eager to know my ways, as if they were a nation that does what is right and has not forsaken the commands of its God. They ask me for just decisions and seem eager for God to come near them.

Humble Worship

Includes a Will to Take Action

Isaiah 58:3-7

³ “ ‘Why have we fasted,’ they say, ‘and you have not seen it? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you have not noticed?’ Yet on the day of your fasting, you **do as you please and exploit** all your workers. ⁴ Your fasting ends in **quarreling and strife**, and in **striking each other with wicked fists**.

“**You cannot fast as you do today and expect your voice to be heard on high.** ⁵ Is this the kind of fast I have chosen, only a day for people to humble themselves? Is it only for bowing one's head like a reed and for lying in sackcloth and ashes? Is that what you call a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶ “Is not this **the kind of fasting I have chosen**: to **loose the chains of injustice** and untie the cords of the yoke, to **set the oppressed free** and break every yoke? ⁷ Is it not to **share your food with the hungry** and to provide the poor wanderer with **shelter**—when you see the **naked**, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

Fellowship Worship

Includes Both Purpose and Promise

Isaiah 58:8-12

⁸ “Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard. ⁹ Then you will call, and the LORD will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: **Here am I**.

“If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, ¹⁰ and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness and your night will become like the noonday. ¹¹ **The LORD will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame.** You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail.

¹² Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; **you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.**

Be Eager to Worship

Seek God's Righteous Ways

Be Humble in Worship

Resolve to Take Action

Fellowship as Worship

Join God's Redemptive Purposes

Trust God's Sustaining Promises