

Righteous Judge, Righteous People

Description

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Genesis 18:16-33

The people of God are called to reflect the character of God. Abraham is charged to follow God's way by doing righteousness and justice so that God's promises to Abraham would be fulfilled. Among those promises was that through Abraham, God would bless all nations on earth (v. 18; see also 12:3).

After hearing that God was going to assess the measure of wickedness in Sodom and Gomorrah, Abraham's response indicates that he had begun to fulfill his charge. Reflecting God's concern that none should perish (see 2 Peter 3:9), Abraham presented a case for saving everyone in the cities, not just the righteous (see Genesis 18:23-25). Abraham's charge to do what is right and just flows from the character of God: "Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?" (18:25). As Abraham's actions were a reflection of God's justice and righteousness, he would be the blessing to the nations that God called him to be.

Christians are called to be like Jesus in this world. In so doing, may we be instruments of God's blessing to family, neighbor, community, and the ends of the earth.

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