

LENT DEVOTION

Austin Christian Fellowship of India (ACFI)

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God "loves righteousness and hates wickedness" (Psalm 45:7) and the "righteous care about justice" (Proverbs 29:9). Righteousness and justice go together and in fact one cannot exist without the other. That is the beauty of Righteousness. A self-righteous person does not exhibit justice in his or her dealings with the people.

Sometimes the question that comes to our mind is: Is it possible to live a righteous life and do justice in a godless wicked culture? Yes, you can! "Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with the Lord" (Genesis 6:9). 'By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark, to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of righteousness that comes by faith (Hebrews 11:7). It was not an easy life. People mocked and ridiculed, name called him but in spite of all that he was subjected to, Noah pursued righteousness. Because Noah loved the Lord and he would rather obey Him who loves him the most and cares for him. But the perseverance in righteousness pays off. "Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord" (Genesis 6:8). "Noah did everything just as God commanded him" (Genesis 6:22). Noah did it for 100 years. God certified and said, "Go into the ark, you and your whole family, because I found you righteous in this generation" (Genesis 7:1).

A believer should not "turn from his righteousness and do evil, and if he does he will surely die for it. And if a wicked man turns away from his wickedness and dies what us right and just, he will live by doing so" (Ezekiel 33:18--19).