

# The Justice and Mercy of God

Scripture: **Daniel 5**

Series: **The Pilgrim Life: Living as God's People in a Pagan Land**

Sunday, May 1, 2016



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## Overview

**The scales of God's justice and mercy are perfectly balanced in Jesus Christ.** We too have been weighed and found wanting, but God is sovereign, God is just and God is merciful. Even though the wages of sin is death, God extends mercy to us through the life death and resurrection of his son as propitiation for the condemnation we rightfully deserve.

## Corraborating Texts

Romans 3:23, 1 John 2:1-2

## Discussion Questions

1. We all cry out for justice, yet we want *mercy* for ourselves. We fail in our balance of justice and mercy, but God's justice and mercy are perfectly balanced in Jesus Christ. How do we fail in our lives to seek justice while expecting mercy?
2. Throughout the book of Daniel we are shown repeatedly that God is sovereign. God is in control of every part of existence. Knowing that God is sovereign, how can we be humble, thoughtful, thankful and confident?
3. In Daniel 5, we see the justice of God in his wrath against King Belshazzar. Like King Belshazzar we too have been weighed and found wanting [read Romans 3:23]. This should instill in us a holy fear, conviction and a hatred towards our sin. God's justice is not our problem, our sins are. Discuss our depravity and lack of righteousness, this should lead us to the mercy of God.
4. Read aloud 1 John 2:1-2. Even though we—like King Belshazzar—deserve death as an appropriate punishment for our sin, we have an advocate in Jesus Christ. Jesus lived a sinless and perfectly righteous life, died on our behalf and rose again conquering sin and satisfying the wrath of God against our sin. His righteousness becomes our reward; His death becomes our forgiveness. Reflect on the mercy of God, rejoice in the truth of his salvation. How you have seen the mercy if God in your lives? Share and discuss.