

His Name Shall Be Called Wonderful (15) **(The) Just One**

Often, characteristics, or attributes of the Lord Jesus can also be a divine title ascribed to Him in the Holy Scriptures. Such is the case with the title, *“the Just One”*. In recounting the details of his conversion to Christ before the Jewish people, the apostle Paul told of how he was informed that the God of their fathers had chosen him to know His will and see that *Just One* and hear the words of His mouth (Acts 22:14).

Zechariah prophesied of the coming of the Lord Jesus, describing Him as *“Just”*. He wrote, *“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass”* (Zech. 9:9).

The word, *“just”*, can mean uprightness fairness, equality and integrity. It is sometimes translated, *“righteous”*, in the Word of God, and as such, identifies the perfect harmony between who the Lord Jesus is, in His divine person, and all that He does. The Lord Jesus said, *“I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me”* (Jn. 5:30).

Peter charged the people of Israel concerning their denial of the Lord Jesus, *“ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you”* (Acts 3:14). Stephen reprimanded the Jewish council, reminding them that they were like their forefathers who had persecuted and slain the prophets who had showed before the coming of the *Just One*, of whom they themselves had been the betrayers and murderers (Acts 7:51-52).

Peter wrote of the substitutionary death of the Lord Jesus, the sinless one, who took the place of the guilty sinner, *“for Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God”* (1st Pet. 3:18).

The sacrifice of the Lord Jesus and His precious blood shed on the cross, as the redemption price demanded for sins, has so satisfied the righteousness of a holy God, that God can now be just and the justifier of him which believes in Jesus (Rom. 3:24-26).

Maintaining daily communion and fellowship with God, requires confession of sin, when it happens in the life of a believer. John assures us, based on the fact that the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin, *“he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness”* (1st Jn. 1:7-9).

The apostle Paul was convinced of the fairness and justness of the Lord Jesus, regarding his reward for faithful service. He wrote in his second letter to Timothy, *“henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous (just) judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing”* (2nd Tim. 4:8).

The future reign of the Lord Jesus will also be characterized by righteousness, faithfulness and justice. David wrote, *“The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spake to me, He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God”* (2nd Sam. 23:3). This is certainly true of the Lord Jesus Christ and will be a key feature of His reign.

Jeremiah prophesied, *“Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth”* (Jer. 23:5).

The last reference in the Word of God to the Lord Jesus as being just, is found in the book of the Revelation. John tells of those who had gotten the victory over the beast, over his image, his mark and the number of his name, "*And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints*" (Rev. 15:3).

*Lo, He comes, the Meek and lowly,
Let all peoples in Him trust;
He, the sinless, pure and Holy,
Christ the Lord, the true and Just.*

*Deity in Him residing,
Through the path in which He moved;
Every grace in Him abiding,
Acts of love His justice proved*

*On the cross the Just One suffering,
Put to death in sinner's place;
Made Himself for sin an offering,
Through the riches of His grace.*

*All His foes have now been vanquished,
Risen now, out from the grave;
Through His blood all sins are banished,
The Just One alone, can save.*

*To the throne of God ascending,
Midst the rapturous bursts of praise;
Every voice and heart is blending,
Now their song of triumph raise.*

*Soon in peace and justice reigning,
O'er all nations here, below;
By the power of love's constraining,
All majesty on Him bestow.*

Bernie Payne