

## What does the Lord require – Pt 1 obedience with balance

Today we begin a new topic on “what the Lord requires of us” and we will cover – (1) do justly, (2) love mercy and (3) walk humbly before Him.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded

### 1. Do justly.

“He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?” (Mic.6: 8).

What does it mean to do justly? When we compare scripture with scripture we establish from 1Thes.2: 10–12 that it means to walk holy, unblameably and exhort others to walk worthy of God (see also Col.1: 10).

### 2. Love mercy

“He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but...to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?” (Mic.6: 8). See also Lk.6: 36.

### 3. Walk humbly before our God.

“He hath shewed thee, O man...what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?” (Mic. 6: 8). See also Col.3: 12.

“These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look...” (Prov 6:16 & 17). See also Is.2: 11 & 12.

Additional information.

Obedience to God is a broad summation of Mic.6: 8 as in 1 Sam.15:22 “obey is better than sacrifice”, Eccl.12: 13 – “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter... keep his commandments...”. And today – obey the gospel (2 Thes.1: 8 & 1 Pet.4: 17).

Illustration to help apply our teaching to our life.

Some in the church labour in obedience to the passages that require us to love our brethren, others the days of the week we are to worship on, and then there are others like myself who labour on what book we use as the preserved holy scriptures.

Question to think about.

If we exhort our brethren to love one another and neglect the truth of other sound doctrine, or if we proclaim the truth of the English text of the Authorised Bible to be scripture but we do so with arrogance and lack care and love for our brethren, are we being obedient or disobedient to what the Lord requires?

Our answer from the scriptures.

“In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth” (2 Tim.2: 25).

Doing that which is just is not about being obedient to the words of God that we view as important but to all His commandments (hence why none are righteous). Therefore, when we focus on one doctrine at the expense of others, or deliver our message in a way that lacks compassion on our audience due to their blindness then we ourselves sin – we lack balance in our obedience. Jesus rebuked the Pharisees who “omitted the weightier matters of the law” (Matt.23: 23). Let us be obedient with balance – and sin not in our effort to be obedient to what we consider to be important, but rather let us do justly, love mercy and walk humbly before God.