

# THE STORY OF JUSTICE

## Redemption: From Jesus to New Jerusalem | Discussion Notes

Firstly, a reminder that we have a 5 minute summary of the talk on our YouTube channel that you may want to play to the group.

<https://youtu.be/HXo7HWYqB3s>

We're finishing this series by looking at the New Testament, in particular Revelation, to ask what difference Jesus makes to our view of justice. Firstly, Philip explained how Revelation shows us that behind human structures of injustice are spiritual powers of evil, or as Revelation calls it "the dragon".

- Have you heard this explanation of the existence of powers of evil behind injustice before?
- If so, how does it change how we think about injustice?
- Revelation is an unveiling of God's plan for the future. How does understanding how things end change our approach to life today?

Then we see 3 key scenes in revelation: the throne room, the battlefield & the Heavenly City.

### SCENE 1: THE THRONE ROOM

Read through Revelation 5:1-8. This scene shows that it is Jesus, the lamb of God, who sits with power and authority - only he is able to enact God's plans and purposes for complete justice. He brings about this justice through being the sacrificial lamb for the world.

- What is the link between the cross and justice? Do you think about the cross being a symbol of justice?
- Revelation also says we are there with God in the throne room as our prayers are being poured out. How often do you think of prayer as a weapon for bringing justice? Have you seen your prayer working to bring justice?

### SCENE 2: THE BATTLEFIELD

Read through Revelation 19:11-13. This scene shows Jesus on the battlefield, working to bring justice to the world by fighting powers of evil.

- In this scene we are described as part of the armies of heaven, riding with Jesus. How does this picture change how we view our role and purpose?
- In Revelation, we are described as having white robes, a picture of holiness and purity. Why is living holy lives important for us as we look to bring justice? Have you thought about a link between the way we follow Jesus with purity and justice before?

### SCENE 3: THE HEAVENLY CITY

Read Revelation 21:1-5. This scene shows how God brings heaven down to Earth and God dwells with his people. It is a picture of life without injustice or suffering, the complete opposite of Babylon

- What is your response to this passage? What can it say to us when we feel hopeless about injustice?
- Looking back on this series, what is one thing you want to change - either in your lifestyle or the way you think about justice?