



The Six Great Ends of the Church

Learning Mini-Series

DISCUSSION OUTLINE: GREAT END #5

The Promotion of Social Righteousness

Presented by The Reverend Dr. Scott Ramsey

Series Information:

This learning mini-series is sponsored by The Reformed Institute of Metropolitan Washington. It consists of seven videos in the “Ted Talk” presentation style. A discussion outline accompanies each of the Six Great Ends presentations. The presentations and presenters are:

- **Series Introduction:** *Rev. Dr. Rob Erickson*
 - **The Proclamation of the Gospel for the Salvation of Humankind:** *Rev. Dr. Rob Erickson*
 - **The Shelter and Nurture and Spiritual Fellowship of the Children of God:**
Rev. Emilee Williams
 - **The Maintenance of Divine Worship:** *Rev. Dr. Jacob Bolton*
 - **The Preservation of the Truth:** *Rev. Becca Messman*
 - **The Promotion of Social Righteousness:** *Rev. Dr. Scott Ramsey*
 - **The Exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the World:** *Rev. Dr. Raymond I. Hylton, Sr.*
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Discussion Outline:

- I. How does this 5th Great End flow from the first 4, per Scott’s comment?

- II. How/Where are God’s people called, in the Bible, to reflect and repeat God’s Righteousness? Is it social righteousness?

- III. Righteousness in the Bible – examples to read together:
 - Psalm 89
 - Psalm 23

Discussion Outline: The Promotion of Social Righteousness

IV. Scott notes the “slippery slope” God’s people can fall down from being righteous to self-righteous. Discuss the differences. Give examples of people from the Bible who have become self-righteous. Give examples from historical or current times of people who may have fallen down this slope – especially related to religious (self) righteousness.

V. Explain/discuss the difference between individual righteousness and social righteousness.

VI. Discuss being in “Right relationship”:

- With God
- With others
- With ourselves
- Between different groups of people (social righteousness)

VII. Scott quotes pastor Rachel Young regarding a “Call to Justice, righteousness, and peace.” Do the three necessarily go together? Must they? How are they different? Is “an eye for an eye” justice, but not peace?

VIII. Could our congregation be better in showing social righteousness? How could we do this?