

Who Defines Justice?

"...You are just in Your sentence, and right in Your judgment."
Psalm 51:4

A famine occurred during King David's reign because "Saul and his house had put some Gibeonites to death."¹ In response David asked the Gibeonites how he should respond to this injustice. They said, "...let seven of Saul's male issue be handed over to us, and we will impale them before the Lord."² David granted them their request and God brought an end to the famine.

God determined that executing seven men, whose only crime was being the offspring of the one who committed a crime, satisfied His justice. Most Christians would agree that calling this justice a crime. Not only so, if you emulated God in this, He would charge you with a crime. This was a decision that God made; it was not a crime simply because God said that He considered it necessary to satisfy justice.

This leaves God's people with a decision: do you affirm the goodness and justice of God in this, even though you yourself would never do it under similar circumstances? A proper answer to this question is an essential component in your having a satisfactory relationship with Christ.

¹ II Samuel 21:1 ² Verse 6