

# The Blessings of the Righteous

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Proverbs 10: 6.



“Blessings are on the head  
of the righteous, but  
violence covers the mouth  
of the wicked.”  
Proverbs 10: 6.



# I. Introduction

We are attached to the righteousness, with a very strong sense of justice. Is it true in all circumstances?





“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.”  
Martin Luther King,  
Letter from Birmingham Jail, 1963.



“If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor. If an elephant has its foot on the tail of a mouse and you say that you are neutral, the mouse will not appreciate your neutrality.”

Desmond Tutu, clergyman, Nobel Peace Prize, working in a country with apartheid. He was speaking to his fellow citizens these famous words: "We will be free! All of us! Black and white together!"

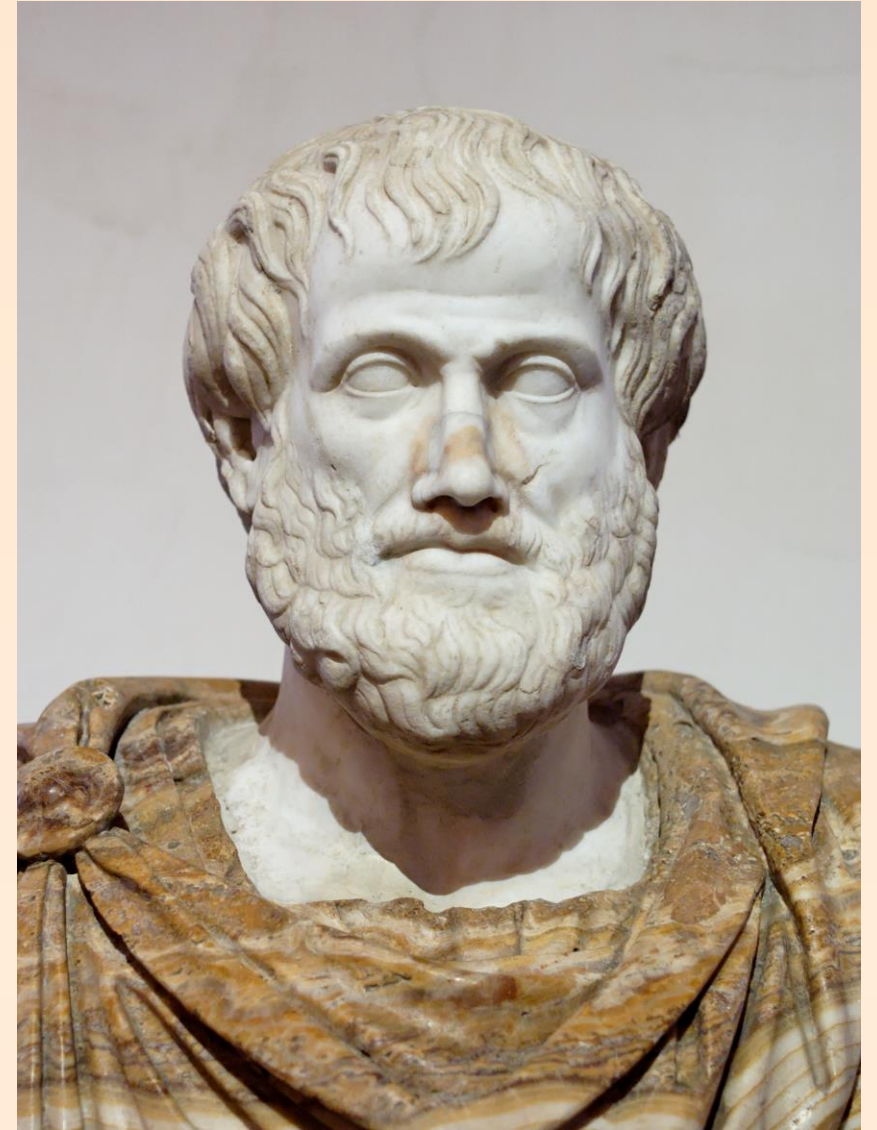


“For there is but one essential justice which cements society, and one law which establishes this justice. This law is right reason, which is the true rule of all commandments and prohibitions. Whoever neglects this law, whether written or unwritten, is necessarily unjust and wicked.”  
Marcus Tullius Cicero, *On the laws*





“The virtue of justice consists in moderation, as regulated by wisdom.”  
Aristotle



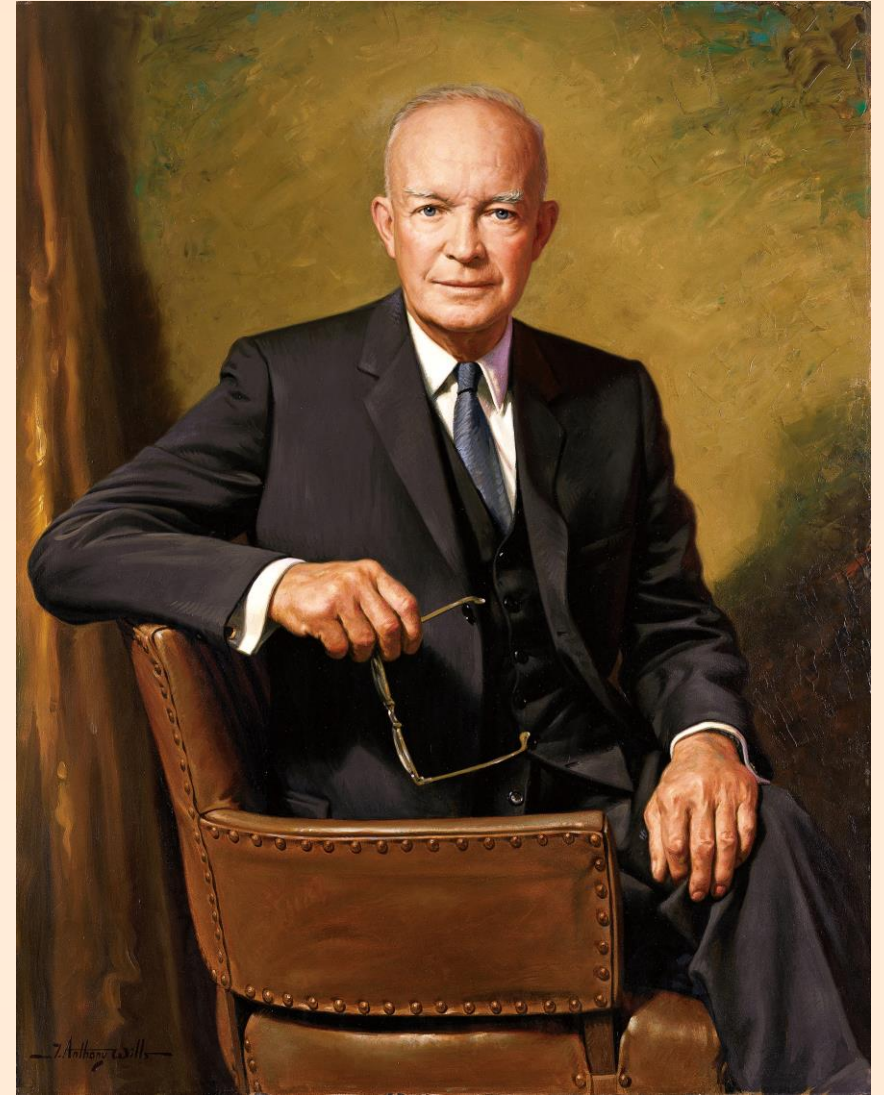
“If you don’t have a seat  
at the table, you’re  
probably on the menu.”  
Elizabeth Warren





“Though force can protect in emergency, only justice, fairness, consideration and cooperation can finally lead men to the dawn of eternal peace.”

Dwight Eisenhower



## II. Context



## Book of Proverbs – Structure

<b>INTRO</b>	1: 1 – 1: 7	The Fear of the Lord for young man: Purpose of the Book, First lesson
<b>1</b>	1: 8 – 9: 18	Wisdom 101 (Introduction to Wisdom)
<b>2</b>	10: 1 – 24: 34	Wise Children (Proverbs for the Youth)
<b>3</b>	25: 1 – 29: 27	Wise People (Proverbs for general public)
<b>4</b>	30: 1 – 30: 33	Wisdom of Agur
<b>5</b>	31: 1 – 31: 9	Wisdom of King Lemuel's Mother
<b>CONCL</b>	31: 10 – 31: 31	Finding the Virtuous Wife with the Fear of the Lord Conclusion of the Book, Last lesson before marriage



# First Three Parts of the Section "WISE CHILDREN" (10: 1 – 24: 34)

Collection "WISE SON" (10: 1 – 13: 25)

With Chapter 14: 1 starts the next collection "WISE WOMAN"

1	10: 1 – 10: 7	Wealth or Poverty Two sons
2	10: 8 – 10: 14	Well of Life Wise son and wise people
3	10: 15 – 10: 21	Profile of Wisdom Wealth, Righteousness, and Discipline

## Proverbs 10: 1 – 7

### Wealth or Poverty

A	10: 1	Two Sons: Wise and Wicked
B	10: 2	Two Attitudes: Righteousness and Wickedness
B	10: 3	Two Attitudes: Righteousness and Wickedness
C	10:4	Two Hands: Deceitful and Diligent
A'	10: 5	Two Sons: Wise and Shameful
B'	10: 6	Two Attitudes: Righteousness and Wickedness
B'	10: 7	Two Attitudes: Righteousness and Wickedness

## Proverbs 10: 8 - 14

### Well of Life

<b>A</b>	10: 8	Wise Man
<b>B</b>	10: 9	Integrity
<b>C</b>	10: 10	Eye
<b>D</b>	10:11	Well of Life
<b>B'</b>	10: 12	Love
<b>C'</b>	10: 13	Lips
<b>A'</b>	10: 14	Wise People



## Proverbs 10: 15 - 21

### Profile of Wisdom: Wealth, Righteousness, and Discipline

A	10: 15	PROSPERITY: Wealth and Protection
A'	10: 16	PROSPERITY: Labor and Life
B	10: 17	Two Pillars of the Book of Proverbs: DISCIPLINE
C	10:18	Fool and Liar (LIPS)
B'	10: 19	Two Pillars of the Book of Proverbs: WISDOM
D	10: 20	RIGHTEOUSNESS vs. Wisdom
D'	10: 21	RIGHTEOUSNESS vs. Foolishness

Our text (10: 6) belongs to the second part of the book, written essentially for young people. It is included in the first poem of 7 verses, with the general message of success, prosperity, and blessings.



One of the very important aspects of assembling together several proverbs in a specific unit is to simplify to young people the process of memorizing the Scripture.

There is also another essential aspect. Having several proverbs dealing with the same topic amplifies the message itself and its practical application in every day life.





# III. Righteousness and Justice in Proverbs 10



# 1. WISDOM AND RIGHTEOUSNESS

In Proverbs chapter 8 we saw that there is no wisdom without truth.

In chapter 10 we understand that there is no wisdom without justice, without righteousness.

A wise man is by definition righteous. In addition, it is only a righteous man that can reach the true, pure, divine wisdom.



The Hebrew word TSADAK  
(צַדִּיק)  
is the root for the word  
'righteous' in Proverbs 10: 6.





There are three important concepts coming from this significant word TSADAK:

Hebrew word for righteousness is TSEDEK, Gesenius's Strong's Concordance: JUSTICE, integrity, equity, straightness.

TSADIK is describing those who are RIGHTEOUS.

TSEDAKAH means CHARITY. In fact, through what the believers give, they contribute to more JUSTICE.



In our culture, by calling 'Offerings' or 'Charity' the act of collecting funds, we underline the generosity and the willingness of donors, who are doing something good for individuals and institutions.

In the Bible (for ex. Jeremiah 4: 2 and 156 other occurrences), it is more the meaning of the act of giving that is underlined.

Therefore, someone can choose not to give. However, he needs to know that the absence of his generosity will directly bend efforts for more justice.



## 2. ABSENCE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS AND VIOLENCE

Wisdom is pacific.

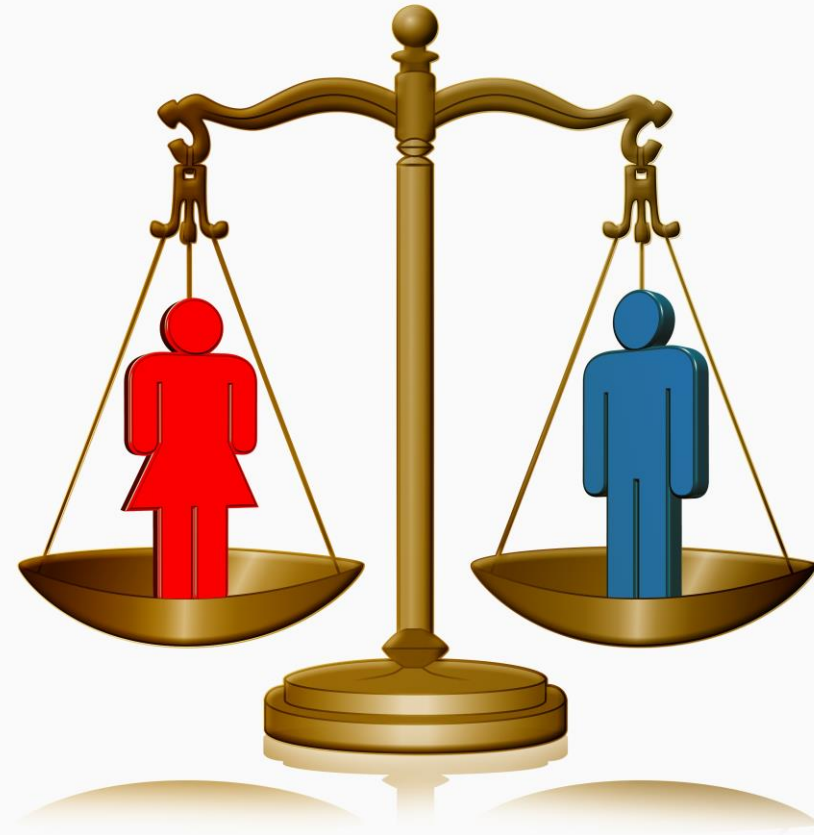
Violence is never wise.

Wise people will find the way to  
break the cycle of violence and to  
promote shalom and mutual respect:

“An eye for an eye will only make the  
whole world blind.” Mahatma Gandhi



“Justice is more than  
proclaiming equality of all.  
It is essentially giving  
everyone equal  
opportunities, allowing  
access to equality.” (DS)





“The secret of unity is found in the equality of believers in Christ. The reason for all division, discord, and difference is found in separation from Christ. Christ is the center to which all should be attracted; for the nearer we approach the center, the closer we shall come together in feeling, in sympathy, in love, growing into the character and image of Jesus. With God there is no respect of persons.”

Ellen G. White, 1SM 259

# The same quotation describing secret of unity

**EQUALITY**

"The secret of unity is found in the equality of believers in Christ.

**RESSEMBLENCE WITH ENEMY**

The reason for all division, discord, and difference

**SEPARATION FROM CHRIST**

Is found in separation from Christ

**CHRIST AS CENTER**

Christ is the center to which all should be attracted;

**UNITY WITH CHRIST**

For the nearer we approach the center, the closer we shall come together in feeling, in sympathy, in love,

**RESSEMBLENCE WITH CHRIST**

growing into the character and image of Jesus.

**EQUALITY**

With God there is no respect of persons."

“Those who make peaceful  
revolution impossible will make  
violent revolution inevitable.”  
John F. Kennedy



### 3. THE VIOLENCE OF THE MOUTH

“But violence covers the  
mouth of the wicked.”





“We do not need guns  
and bombs to bring  
peace, we need love and  
compassion.”  
Mother Teresa, *The Joy in  
Loving: A Guide to Daily  
Living*



Nonviolence doesn't  
always work - but  
violence never does."  
Madge Micheels-Cyrus



“Words can be twisted into any shape. Promises can be made to lull the heart and seduce the soul. In the final analysis, words mean nothing. They are labels we give things in an effort to wrap our puny little brains around their underlying natures, when ninety-nine percent of the time the totality of the reality is an entirely different beast. The wisest man is the silent one. Examine his actions. Judge him by them.”

Karen Marie Moning

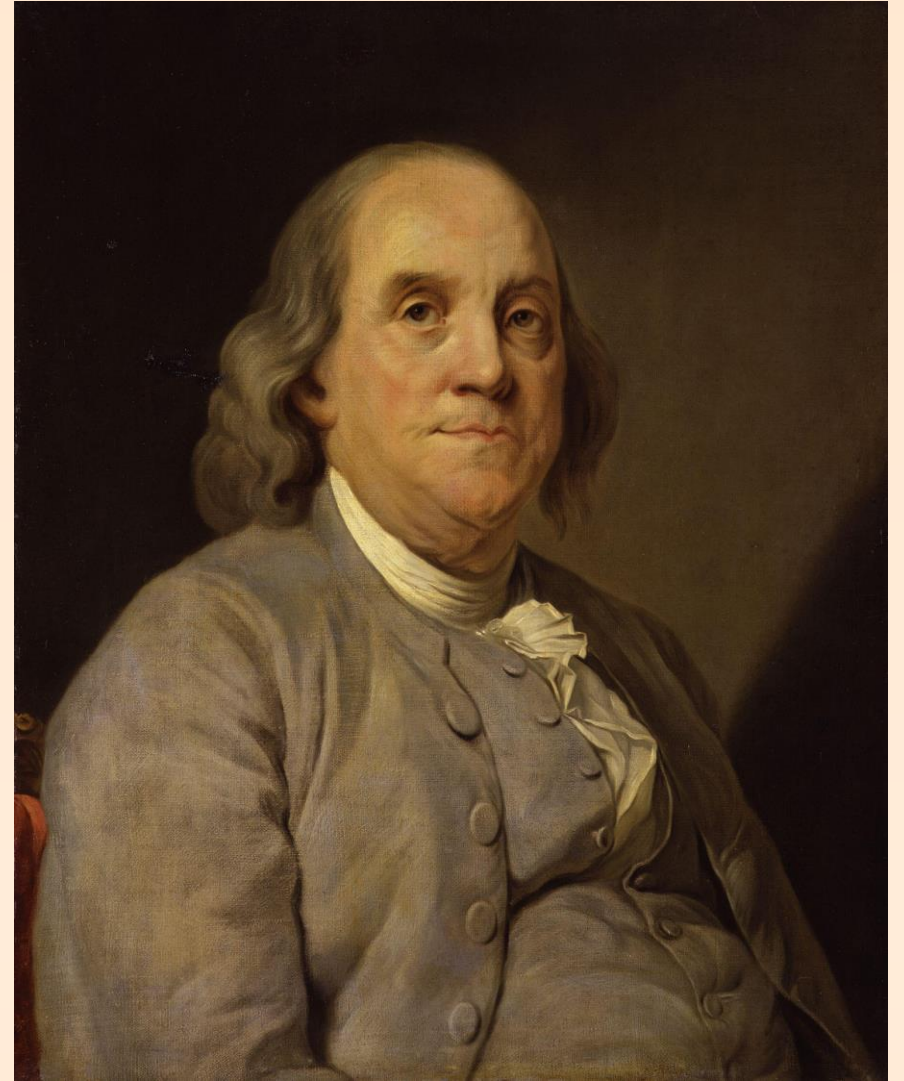
# V. Conclusion





“Justice will not be served until  
those who are unaffected are as  
outraged as those who are.”

Benjamin Franklin



“Justice without wisdom is impossible”.  
James Anthony Froude



“This is the will of God,” the apostle Paul wrote, “even your sanctification.” (1 Thessalonians 4:3). The sanctification of the church is God’s object in all His dealings with His people. He has chosen them from eternity, that they might be holy. He gave His Son to die for them, that they might be sanctified through obedience to the truth, divested of all the littleness of self... True sanctification comes through the working out of the principle of love. “God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.” 1 John 4:16. The life of him in whose heart Christ abides, will reveal practical godliness. The character will be purified, elevated, ennobled, and glorified. Pure doctrine will blend with works of righteousness; heavenly precepts will mingle with holy practices.” Ellen G. White, Acts of Apostles, p. 560.

“He who is trying to reach heaven by his own works in keeping the law is attempting an impossibility. Man cannot be saved without obedience, but his works should not be of himself; Christ should work in him to will and to do of His good pleasure. If a man could save himself by his own works, he might have something in himself in which to rejoice. The effort that man makes in his own strength to obtain salvation is represented by the offering of Cain. All that man can do without Christ is polluted with selfishness and sin; but that which is wrought through faith is acceptable to God. When we seek to gain heaven through the merits of Christ, the soul makes progress. “Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith,” we may go on from strength to strength, from victory to victory; for through Christ the grace of God has worked out our complete salvation.” Ellen G. White, Faith and Works, p. 94.



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