The Just Judge

The Israelite soldiers who killed all the people in Jericho (except Rahab and her family) were following God’s orders. This is very hard for us to understand, but it was not essentially different from what God did to Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 19). In the one case God used fire and brimstone; in the other He used soldiers to bring judgment. When we cannot understand all of God’s ways, we must still trust His character.

**1. God is *sovereign***

Romans 9:19-24

A. God has a right to do as He *pleases*

B. God has a plan that includes all *people*

**2. God is *just***

Psalm 75

A. His judgment is *just*

B. His judgment is *praiseworthy*

**3. God is *merciful***

Ephesians 2:4-7

A. Mercy flows from His *love*

B. Mercy fulfills His *plan*

**Concluding Application**

When you see harsh judgments in Scripture or overwhelming tragedies in the present—

A. Trust in God’s *goodness*

B. Adopt God’s *perspective*

**For additional study or family discussion**

1. What did the Lord say to you today through His word? Did you learn some new truth about God or yourself? Did the Lord challenge you, convict you, or encourage you?

2. How do the following passages describe God’s sovereign right to do with His creation as He pleases?

Isaiah 29:16; 45:8-9

Psalm 115:1-8; Jeremiah 10:1-16 (What is the Lord *not* like?)

3. Of what was Abraham confident (Genesis 18:25)?

4. What gives God pleasure?

Ezekiel 33:11

Micah 7:18

2 Peter 3:9

5. Why is it so hard for us to understand God’s ways?

Isaiah 55:8-9

Romans 11:33-36