

Ezekiel 18:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Yet ye say, The way of the Lord is not equal. Hear now, O house of Israel; Is not my way equal? are not your ways unequal?

Analysis

'Yet ye say, The way of the Lord is not equal. Hear now, O house of Israel; Is not my way equal? are not your ways unequal?' The people accuse God of injustice ('not equal'—Hebrew *takan*, 'not right/fair'). God turns the accusation: His way is perfectly just; their ways are unequal. Human perspective on justice is distorted by sin. God's individual accountability is perfectly fair—each person receives consequences for their own choices.

Historical Context

Throughout Ezekiel, the exiles questioned God's justice in bringing exile. Similar complaints appear in Jeremiah 31:29, Lamentations, and Malachi 2:17. Fallen humanity characteristically accuses God of injustice when experiencing consequences of sin. The New Testament similarly addresses objections to God's justice (Romans 9:14-24).

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. When have you accused God of unfairness while ignoring your own sin?
2. How does recognizing our distorted view of justice change our response to God's judgments?

Interlinear Text

נָא שְׁמַעוּ אֶדְןִי דַּרְכֵיכֶם יִתְּכַנּוּ לֹא וְאַמְרָתִם
Yet ye say H3808 equal Is not my way of the Lord Hear H4994
H559 H8505 H1870 H136 H8085

דַּרְכֵיכֶם יִשְׁבָּא לֹא יִתְּכַנּוּ לֹא יִשְׁבָּא לְכָל אֶדְןִי
now O house of Israel Is not my way H3808 equal H3808 Is not my way
H1004 H3478 H1870 H8505 H1870

!יִתְּכַנּוּ לֹא
H3808 equal H8505

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 33:17 (References Lord): Yet the children of thy people say, The way of the Lord is not equal: but as for them, their way is not equal.

Jeremiah 12:1 (References Lord): Righteous art thou, O LORD, when I plead with thee: yet let me talk with thee of thy judgments: Wherefore doth the way of the wicked prosper? wherefore are all they happy that deal very treacherously?

Genesis 18:25 (Parallel theme): That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

Ezekiel 33:20 (References Lord): Yet ye say, The way of the Lord is not equal. O ye house of Israel, I will judge you every one after his ways.

Malachi 2:17 (References Lord): Ye have wearied the LORD with your words. Yet ye say, Wherein have we wearied him? When ye say, Every one that doeth evil is

good in the sight of the LORD, and he delighteth in them; or, Where is the God of judgment?

Zephaniah 3:5 (References Lord): The just LORD is in the midst thereof; he will not do iniquity: every morning doth he bring his judgment to light, he faileth not; but the unjust knoweth no shame.

Ezekiel 18:29 (References Lord): Yet saith the house of Israel, The way of the Lord is not equal. O house of Israel, are not my ways equal? are not your ways unequal?

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