

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

וְאָמַרְתָּ מַה	לֹא	יִתְכַּוֵּן:	דְּרִיכָא מַה	אֲדֹנָי	שְׁמָעוּ	נָא
Yet ye say	H3808	equal	Is not my way	of the Lord	Hear	H4994
H559		H8505	H1870	H136	H8085	
כֵּן יְהוָה	יִשְׂרָאֵל	דְּרִיכָא מַה	לֹא	יִתְכַּוֵּן:	הֵלֵא	דְּרִיכָא מַה
now O house	of Israel	Is not my way	H3808	equal	H3808	Is not my way
H1004	H3478	H1870		H8505		H1870
לֹא	יִתְכַּוֵּן:					
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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