

# Isaiah 56:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thus saith the LORD, Keep ye judgment, and do justice: for my salvation is near to come, and my righteousness to be revealed.

## Analysis

God commands: 'Keep ye judgment, and do justice: for my salvation is near to come, and my righteousness to be revealed.' The Hebrew 'mishpat' (judgment) and 'tsedaqah' (justice/righteousness) are covenant requirements. Yet the motivation is not earning salvation but responding to it: salvation is 'near to come' - divine initiative precedes human response.

## Historical Context

This begins the final section of Isaiah (56-66) addressing life in the restored community. Ethical requirements accompany promised restoration, showing that salvation produces righteousness rather than the reverse.

## Related Passages

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

---

1. How does knowing salvation is coming motivate righteous living?
2. What is the relationship between God's initiative and human ethical response?

## Interlinear Text

---

וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה שְׁמַר וְאַמְرֵ בְּנֵי-הָעֵדָה מִשְׁפָט תְּעַשׂ וְעַשָּׂתְךָ כִּי

H3541 Thus saith the LORD Keep ye judgment and do

H559 H3068 H8104 H4941 H6213

וְאַתְּ קָדוֹם לִבְנֵי-הָעֵדָה וְאַתְּ לֹא-צָדִיקָתִי וְאַתְּ קָדוֹם לִבְנֵי-הָעֵדָה וְאַתְּ לֹא-צָדִיקָתִי

and my righteousness is near for my salvation to come

H6666 H3588 H7138 H3444 H935

לְהַגְּלֹתָה וְאַתְּ קָדוֹם לִבְנֵי-הָעֵדָה וְאַתְּ קָדוֹם לִבְנֵי-הָעֵדָה

and my righteousness to be revealed

H6666 H1540

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Psalms 85:9** (Salvation): Surely his salvation is nigh them that fear him; that glory may dwell in our land.

**Romans 1:17** (Righteousness): For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

**Matthew 3:2** (Parallel theme): And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

**Isaiah 55:7** (Righteousness): Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

**Isaiah 51:5** (Salvation): My righteousness is near; my salvation is gone forth, and mine arms shall judge the people; the isles shall wait upon me, and on mine arm shall they trust.

**Isaiah 46:13** (Salvation): I bring near my righteousness; it shall not be far off, and my salvation shall not tarry: and I will place salvation in Zion for Israel my glory.

**Matthew 4:17** (Parallel theme): From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

**John 7:17** (Parallel theme): If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

**Mark 1:15** (Parallel theme): And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

**Malachi 4:4** (Judgment): Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments.