

Love...

Does Not Delight In Evil
But Rejoices In The Truth.

1 Corinthians 13:6

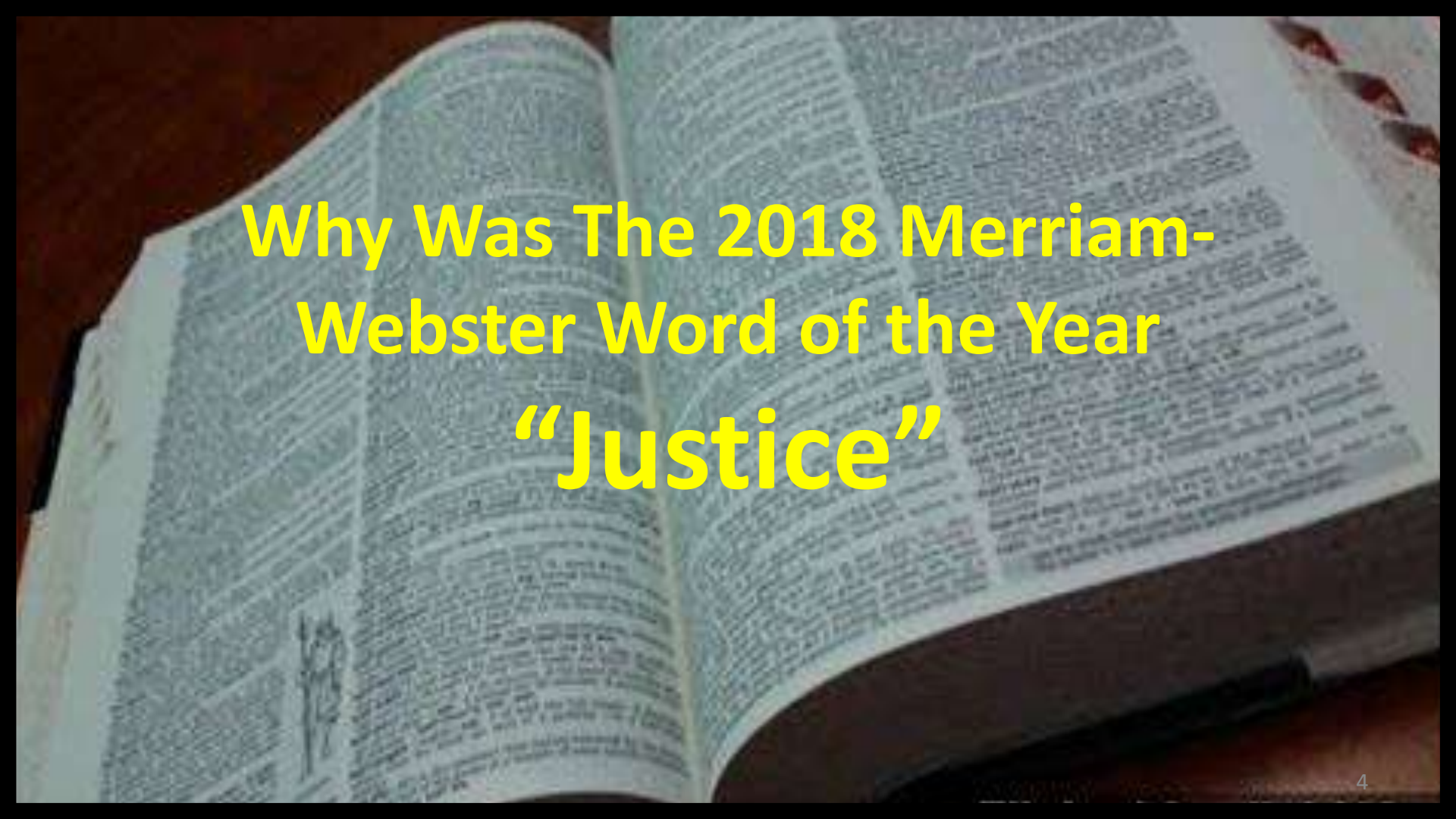
Does That Seem Like a Strange Warning?

Don't rejoice when Evil is happening!



Comparing Translations: 1 Cor. 13:6

- (KJV) *Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;*
- (ESV) *It does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.*
- (NLT2) *It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out.*

An open Merriam-Webster dictionary is shown, with the word "Justice" highlighted in yellow. The text is overlaid on the dictionary pages, which are filled with dense, small print. The background is a dark, textured surface.

Why Was The 2018 Merriam-Webster Word of the Year “Justice”

Some Questions Requiring Answers!

What Do Mean When We Say,
“Justice Was Served”?

Are Law and Justice the Same?

Heroic Law Breakers – Despotic Law Enforcers

- Peter and John – Acts 4:1-ff
- The Apostles – Acts 5:17-ff
- Signers of the Declaration of Independence
 - Harriet Tubman
 - Martin Luther King Jr.
- Stalin
- Mao
- Adolf Hitler
- Pol Pot
- Idi Amin
- Saddam Hussein

A Laws are Made, Amended and Changed as
Those in Power Determine.

Justice is Non-negotiable, Based in Truth that is
Unchangeable.

Truth is Another Word for Faithfulness and a
Defining Characteristic of Life as Jesus Live It.

Jesus Was Full of Grace And Truth

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.
We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who
came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14 (NIV)

So the Word became human and made his home among us.
He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have
seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son.

John 1:14 (NLT2)

The Theme of Justice/Injustice Pervades Amos

- Oppress the poor and innocent 2:6-7; 5:12
- Buy and sell the innocent and needy instead of helping them. 2:6-7; 8:6
- Deny justice to the oppressed and poor 2:7; 5:12
- Illegally keep items held in pledge 2:8
- Collect unfair fines 2:8
- Wealthy women oppress the poor and crush the needy 4:1
- Turn justice and righteousness into poison & bitterness 5:7; 6:12
- Cast righteousness down 5:7
- Detest honest people 5:10
- Force grain from the poor 5:11
- Take bribes 5:12
- Live with complacency 6:1
- Act with pride 6:8
- Cheat when selling, using skimpy measures, dishonest scales and gouging prices 8:5

God's Response to Injustice: Amos 5:21-24

"I hate, I despise your religious feasts;
I cannot stand your assemblies.
Even though you bring me burnt offerings
and grain offerings, I will not accept them.
Though you bring choice fellowship offerings,
I will have no regard for them.
Away with the noise of your songs!
I will not listen to the music of your harps.
But let justice roll on like a river,
righteousness like a never-failing stream!

Love...

doesn't cheer at others' harm,
rejoices, rather, in the truth.

(1 Corinthians 13:6 —Wright, N.T. translation)





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

We are not to simply bandage the wounds of victims beneath the wheels of injustice, we are to drive a spoke into the wheel itself.”

– Dietrich Bonhoeffer



"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere"

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter"

– Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Delighting in the Truth Doesn't Allow Neutrality

IF you are **NEUTRAL**
on situations of **INJUSTICE**,
you have chosen
the side of the **OPPRESSOR**.
—Desmond Tutu

Jesus Taught, (Thesis and Antithesis)

Mark 9:38-41 (NIV)

"Teacher," said John, "we saw a man driving out demons in your name and we told him to stop, because he was not one of us."

"Do not stop him," Jesus said. "No one who does a miracle in my name can in the next moment say anything bad about me, for whoever is not against us is for us."

What does the
LORD
require of you, but to
Act Justly
to **LOVE MERCY** and to
Walk Humbly
WITH **GOD**
YOUR
MICAH 6:8



Let's Pray This Prayer

Holy God, forgive us for when we have rejoiced in evil of any and every kind. As your servant James has said, "Change (our) laughter to mourning and our joy to gloom."

Look down in mercy on the many who suffer indignities and injustice daily. Help us to recognize prejudice when we see it or do it and cause us by your Holy Spirit to see the beauty of all humanity that you created. May we rejoice in and hunger for righteousness and justice and find ways to bring healing to our world. "...let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!"

In Jesus Name, Amen