

Doctrine of the Characteristics of the Righteous

1. The righteous will offer intercession on behalf of others.
 - *Genesis 18:23 And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?*
2. The righteous do not accept bribes.
 - *Exodus 23:8 And thou shalt take no gift: for the gift blindeth the wise, and perverteth the words of the righteous.*
 - *Deuteronomy 16:19 Thou shalt not wrest judgment; thou shalt not respect persons, neither take a gift: for a gift doth blind the eyes of the wise, and pervert the words of the righteous.*
3. The righteous die well.
 - *Numbers 23:10 Who can count the dust of Jacob, and the number of the fourth part of Israel? Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his!*
4. The righteous will render a wise and objective verdict on matters that come under their judgment.
 - *Deuteronomy 25:1 If there be a controversy between men, and they come unto judgment, that the judges may judge them; then they shall justify the righteous, and condemn the wicked.*
5. The righteous will mediate upon, remember and verbalize the righteous acts of God.
 - *Judges 5:11 They that are delivered from the noise of archers in the places of drawing water, there shall they rehearse the righteous acts of the LORD, even the righteous acts toward the inhabitants of his villages in Israel: then shall the people of the LORD go down to the gates.*
6. The righteous will use the righteous acts of God as the basis of an argument for God's people to do right in a given matter.
 - *1 Samuel 12:7 Now therefore stand still, that I may reason with you before the LORD of all the righteous acts of the LORD, which he did to you and to your fathers.*

7. The righteous will pray that God's righteousness will prevail in the kingdoms of this world in which He has established.
 - *1 Kings 8:32 Then hear thou in heaven, and do, and judge thy servants, condemning the wicked, to bring his way upon his head; and justifying the righteous, to give him according to his righteousness.*
 - *2 Chronicles 6:23 Then hear thou from heaven, and do, and judge thy servants, by requiting the wicked, by recompensing his way upon his own head; and by justifying the righteous, by giving him according to his righteousness.*
8. The friends of Job argued that the righteous do not perish nor are they cut off.
 - *Job 4:7 Remember, I pray thee, who ever perished, being innocent? Or where were the righteous cut off?*
9. The righteous grow stronger and stronger in moral authority the longer they live.
 - *Job 17:9 The righteous also shall hold on his way, and he that hath clean hands shall be stronger and stronger.*
10. The righteous see spiritual truth that others do not.
 - *Job 22:19 The righteous see it, and are glad: and the innocent laugh them to scorn.*
11. The righteous should argue and plead appropriately at the right time.
 - *Job 23:7 There the righteous might dispute with him; so should I be delivered for ever from my judge.*
12. The righteous can know that the eye of God is always upon him.
 - *Job 36:7 He withdraweth not his eyes from the righteous: but with kings are they on the throne; yea, he doth establish them for ever, and they are exalted.*
13. The righteous will stand separate from the wicked in the day of ultimate judgment.
 - *Psalms 1:5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.*
 - *Psalms 69:28 Let them [the wicked] be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous.*

14. The righteous enjoys the knowledge of God's abiding interest in his life.

- *Psalms 1:6 For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.*

15. The righteous shall know the blessing of the Lord and His favor.

- *Psalms 5:12 For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as with a shield.*

16. The righteous shall be established. Their lives will have meaning, definition and purpose.

- *Psalms 7:9 Oh let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end; but establish the just: for the righteous God trieth the hearts and reins.*

17. The righteous shall be tested and judged by God for the purpose of approval.

- *Psalms 7:11 God judgeth the righteous, and God is angry with the wicked every day.*
- *Psalms 11:5 The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.*

18. The righteous are subject to the laws of divine establishment which are Volition (Freedom), Marriage, Home and Government with internal and external protection. Internal protection means a policeman on the corner and a judge on the bench. External protection means a strong military defense. If those laws and institutions are violated the righteous too shall suffer.

- *Psalms 11:3 If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?*

19. God loves righteousness and therefore the upright or the righteous.

- *Psalms 11:7 For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.*

20. The righteous cannot exist apart from God.

- *Psalms 14:5 There were they in great fear: for God is in the generation of the righteous.*

21. The righteous will know the brutality of slander.

- *Psalms 31:18 Let the lying lips be put to silence; which speak grievous things proudly and contemptuously against the righteous.*

22. The righteous have the ear of heaven open to their cry.

- *Psalms 34:15 The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry.*
- *Psalms 34:17 The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.*

23. The sufferings of the righteous are numerous but God shall deliver from them all.

- *Psalms 34:19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.*

24. The righteous shall be the object of hatred.

- *Psalms 34:21 Evil shall slay the wicked: and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate.*

25. God has promised to sustain the righteous.

- *Psalms 37:17 For the arms of the wicked shall be broken: but the LORD upholdeth the righteous.*
- *Psalms 37:25 I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.*

26. The righteous are generous and they honor their debts.

- *Psalms 37:21 The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again: but the righteous sheweth mercy, and giveth.*

27. The righteous shall inherit the land which God has promised which includes the new earth. .

- *Psalms 37:29 The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein for ever.*

28. Wisdom characterizes the speech of the righteous.

- *Psalms 37:30 The mouth of the righteous speaketh wisdom, and his tongue talketh of judgment.*

29. The righteous shall always be the object of hostility by the wicked for the righteous passes moral judgment upon evil and this the ungodly despise.

- *Psalms 37:32 The wicked watcheth the righteous, and seeketh to slay him.*

30. The righteous depend upon the Lord in the time of trouble.

- *Psalms 37:39 But the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD: he is their strength in the time of trouble.*

31. The righteous will laugh at the wicked.

Psalms 52:6 The righteous also shall see, and fear, and shall laugh at him:

32. The righteous enjoy the promise of God of ultimate security.

Psalms 55:22 Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

33. The righteous rejoice when justice is administered.

- *Psalms 58:10 The righteous shall rejoice when he seeth the vengeance: he shall wash his feet in the blood of the wicked.*

34. The righteous are anxious that the justice of God be vindicated.

- *Psalms 58:11 So that a man shall say, Verily there is a reward for the righteous: verily he is a God that judgeth in the earth.*

35. The righteous are happy in the Lord.

- *Psalms 64:10 The righteous shall be glad in the LORD, and shall trust in him; and all the upright in heart shall glory.*
- *Psalms 68:3 But let the righteous be glad; let them rejoice before God: yea, let them exceedingly rejoice.*

36. A Spirit of thanksgiving characterizes the righteous.

- *Psalms 140:13 Surely the righteous shall give thanks unto thy name: the upright shall dwell in thy presence.*

37. The righteous are characterized by sound wisdom.

- *Proverbs 2:7 He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly.*

38. The righteous learn the secrets of God.

- *Proverbs 3:32 For the froward is abomination to the LORD: but his secret is with the righteous.*

39. The lips of the righteous protect and prosper the lives of others.

- *Proverbs 10:21 The lips of the righteous feed many: but fools die for want of wisdom.*

40. Pure motives characterize the heart of the righteous.

- *Proverbs 11:23 The desire of the righteous is only good: but the expectation of the wicked is wrath.*

41. Stability of soul and life characterize the righteous.

- *Proverbs 12:3 A man shall not be established by wickedness: but the root of the righteous shall not be moved.*

42. The righteous flee to God in time of trouble and place no confidence in the flesh.

- *Proverbs 18:10 The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.*

43. A glorious future waits for the righteous.

- *Matthew 13:43 Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.*
- *Matthew 25:46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.*

44. Righteousness can be imitated but not reproduced by hypocrites.

- *Matthew 23:29 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous,*

45. There is a collective judgment that God will pour out upon the wicked for their treatment of the righteous.

- *Matthew 23:35 That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar.*
- *Romans 2:5 But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;*

46. There is a crown of righteousness to receive for all who love the doctrine of the Second Advent.

- *2 Timothy 4:8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.*

47. God is pleased to hear the prayers of the righteous.

- *1 Peter 3:12 For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.*