

ZEP 2:3 Seek the Lord, All you humble of the earth who have carried out His ordinances; Seek righteousness, seek humility. Perhaps you will be hidden in the day of the Lord's anger.

ZEC 8:8 and I will bring them back, and they will live in the midst of Jerusalem, and they will be My people and I will be their God in truth and righteousness. '

MAL 3:3 "And He will sit as a smelter and purifier of silver, and He will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, so that they may present to the Lord offerings in righteousness.

MAL 4:2 "But for you who fear My name the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings; and you will go forth and skip about like calves from the stall.

In these references "righteousness" is often coupled with justice and frequently contrasted with sin and iniquity. "Righteousness" regularly means "uprightness of character and conduct," and this uprightness is defined in terms of obedience or conformity to the revealed will of God.

In addition to the themes of justice and righteousness, several connected passages are relevant to the search for a biblical standard of moral conduct:

ISA 1:16 "Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; Remove the evil of your deeds from My sight. Cease to do evil,

ISA 1:17 Learn to do good; Seek justice, Reprove the ruthless; Defend the orphan, Plead for the widow.

ISA 5:20 Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness; Who substitute bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

ISA 5:21 Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, And clever in their own sight!

ISA 5:22 Woe to those who are heroes in drinking wine, And valiant men in mixing strong drink;

ISA 5:23 Who justify the wicked for a bribe, And take away the rights of the ones who are in the right!

ISA 10:1 Woe to those who enact evil statutes, And to those who constantly record unjust decisions,

ISA 10:2 So as to deprive the needy of justice, And rob the poor of My people of their rights, In order that widows may be their spoil, And that they may plunder the orphans.

ISA 29:13 Then the Lord said, "Because this people draw near with their words And honor Me with their lip service, But they remove their hearts far from Me, And their reverence for Me consists of tradition learned by rote,