

Day 20:

He defended the cause of the poor and needy, and so all went well. Is that not what it means to know me?” declares the LORD. “But your eyes and your heart are set only on dishonest gain, on shedding innocent blood and on oppression and extortion.”

-Jeremiah 22:16-17 NIV

The prophet Jeremiah is speaking about King Josiah. In King Josiah's rule, he used his power to suppress idolatry worship and reconstructed the temple for people to worship the only real God. King Josiah had a lot of spiritual influence over his ruling nation, and it showed through God's blessings. Jeremiah is encouraging King Josiah's descendants that in all of our good works, religious fame is never a goal. Jeremiah further challenges them in striving for mercy (compassionate and forgiving) and righteousness (being like God's character)... ultimately being the hands of God.

This old testament knowledge harvested a valuable reminder to the disciples (1John 3:2), and still does today. Admittedly, it's hard to die to ourselves by taking up our cross daily but when we do so, dressing ourselves in Jesus' character, people will notice the difference. People see way more than they will ever hear (1John 3:18) because real Love is an action word.

GO BE HIM FOR HIS PURPOSE!

