

## Week 49: The Righteous and the Wicked

### Scripture Reading:

"Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not." - Mal. 3:18

### Opening:

Give thanks for God's guidance in His Word, which teaches us to discern between paths of righteousness and paths of wickedness.

### Devotional:

The Bible is clear in drawing a line between the righteous and the wicked. Those justified through faith in Jesus Christ and sanctified by the Holy Spirit are seen as righteous in God's eyes. On the other hand, those who choose to reject God and remain ensnared by sin are seen as wicked (Gal. 3:10). This distinction is not just about one's present stance with God, but it also has eternal consequences. The righteous hold the promise of eternal fellowship with God, but the wicked face the reality of eternal hell.

### Discussion:

1. How does Malachi 3:18 emphasize the distinction between those who serve God and those who don't?
2. What does persistent unbelief and impenitence signify about one's spiritual condition? (Gal. 3:10; John 3:36)
3. How can believers convey the hope they possess in Christ to those yet to believe? (Acts 10:34-35; Luke 9:23-26)

### Activity:

Reflect on God's righteousness and how it's attributed to His children. Consider ways you can share this with those around you, bringing them nearer to God's saving grace.

### Closing:

Close with prayer by seeking God's wisdom to grasp His righteousness better, for courage to share the salvation message, and for guidance in consistently walking in His word.