

## Concepts of Justice, Biblical and Modern

### Contemporary Justice

1. Justice divided into areas, each with different rules
2. Administration of justice as an inquiry into guilt
3. Justice tested by rules, procedures
4. Focus on infliction of pain
5. Punishment as an end
6. Rewards based on just deserts, “deserved”
7. Justice opposed to mercy
8. Justice neutral, claiming to treat all equally
9. Justice as maintenance of the status quo
10. Focus on guilt and abstract principles
11. Wrong as a violation of rules
12. Guilt as unforgivable
13. Differentiation between “offenders” and others
14. Individual solely responsible; social and political contexts unimportant
15. Action as free choice
16. Law as prohibition
17. Focus on letter of law
18. The state as victim
19. Justice serves to divide

### Biblical Justice

1. Justice seen as integrated whole
2. Administration of justice as a search for solutions
3. Justice defined by outcome, substance
4. Focus on making right
5. Punishment in context of redemption, shalom
6. Justice based on need, undeserved
7. Justice based on mercy and love
8. Justice both fair and partial
9. justice as active, progressive, seeking to transform status quo
10. Focus on harm done
11. Wrong as violation of people, relationships, shalom
12. Guilt forgivable though an obligation exists
13. Recognition that we are offenders
14. Individual responsibility, but in holistic context
15. Action as choice, but with recognition of the power of evil
16. Law as “wise indicator,” teacher, point for discussion
17. Spirit of law, as most important
18. People, shalom, as victim
19. justice aims at bringing together

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