

LIFE Group Guide

Power and Justice

Pastor Justin Searles

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THE ORCHARD

Read: Ecclesiastes 8

Outline:

Part 1- A wise person under a king's command Vs (1-9)

- Wear the soft and shining face of wisdom (1)
- Remember God's oath to those placed in authority (2)
- Be submissive, positive, and patient (3-7)
- Accept & trust the greater reign of God (8-9)

Part 2- A wise person observing wickedness Vs (10-13)

- The wicked die and their false worship and human praise go silent (10)
- The punishment piles up and life is cut short (11 & 13)
- Those who fear God prevail (12)

Part 3 - Wise advice for those in turmoil Vs (14-17)

- Things seem unfitting and backward (14)
- Intentional gratitude: Joy is commended for what God has given (15)
- Don't toil or lose sleep trying to figure it out (16-17)

Discussion Questions

1. What was something from the passage/message that led you to think, feel, or act biblically?
2. How does this passage connect with our lives today?
3. How does this passage point to or reflect Jesus Christ?
4. How do you respond to authority? What would it look like for you to be godly in your response to authority? (8:1-9)
5. How is it a comfort to know that God will not only deal with those who are wicked and abuse their authority but also those who fear God? (8:10-13)
6. How should one live while experiencing turmoil in their life from flawed authority? (8:14-17)