

No. 43 God's Requirements—Always Beneficial

PLEASE NOTE: Emphasize that Jehovah's requirements are reasonable and beneficial. Encourage new ones to continue learning God's requirements and following them. If you wish, you may use the artwork provided to illustrate points where indicated

THE SUPERIORITY OF GOD'S REQUIREMENTS (6 min.)

Humans in authority often impose unreasonable demands on others (Ec 8:9)

In contrast, God's requirements are reasonable and beneficial

He loves us; everything he requires of us is for our good (1Jo 4:8)

His wisdom far exceeds that of any human (Isa 55:9)

When we do what Jehovah asks of us, we always benefit (Isa 48:17, 18)

The prophet Micah summarized God's requirements [**Read Micah 6:8**] (w12 11/1 22 ¶1-3)

As we examine each one, let us consider (1) the conditions in Micah's day, (2) similar conditions we see today, and (3) the benefits of doing what Jehovah asks of us

"EXERCISE JUSTICE" (6 min.)

We "exercise justice" by dealing with others according to God's righteous standards

This includes treating others honestly and fairly

Micah prophesied at a time when injustice abounded (it-2 392 ¶2)

Merchants used fraudulent weights and scales to cheat their customers (Mic 6:10-12; jd 75 ¶13)

Those in authority accepted bribes (Mic 3:1, 2, 11; 7:3, 4; jd 77-78 ¶15-16)

Injustice and corruption abound today (w15 1/1 3; g 5/12 3)

When we "exercise justice," we enjoy a clean conscience and good relationships with others

[Relate an experience, such as from *The Watchtower*, July 1, 2014, pages 8-9]

"CHERISH LOYALTY" (6 min.)

We show that we "cherish loyalty" by being loyal to Jehovah God and to fellow humans

People in Micah's day were disloyal to friends and family members (Mic 7:2, 5, 6)

Many today lack natural affection and loyalty (2Ti 3:1-3)

When we "cherish loyalty," we enjoy Jehovah's favor (Ps 18:25; w13 6/15 18 ¶5-6)

He provides us with loyal friends within the Christian congregation

[Relate an experience, such as from *The Watchtower*, April 1, 2012, pages 14-15]

"WALK IN MODESTY WITH YOUR GOD" (6 min.)

We "walk in modesty" by recognizing our limitations and our need for Jehovah's guidance

Micah's contemporaries thought that they could do anything they wanted without any consequences (Mic 2:1, 2)

Many people today feel that no one has the right to tell them what to do

Sooner or later, those who lack modesty end up humiliating themselves (Pr 11:2)

We "walk in modesty" by living as God directs in his Word (w12 11/1 22 ¶6-7)

Doing so brings real joy and satisfaction

[Relate an experience, such as from *The Watchtower*, October 1, 2014, pages 14-15]

ENJOY PEACE AMONG THOSE WHO FOLLOW GOD'S REQUIREMENTS (6 min.)

Micah foretold a time when people who follow God's requirements would enjoy peace and unity **[Read and discuss Micah 4:1-4]** [Image 1]

Verse 1: This prophecy is being fulfilled now—during “the last days” (Mic 4:1, ftn.)

Verse 2: People from “many nations” are responding to Jehovah's instruction

Verse 3: They do not allow racial, national, or cultural differences to disrupt their peace

Verse 4: They have real security because of Jehovah's protective care

You too can experience these benefits

Keep learning about God's requirements and following them in your life

Associate with those who do what God asks of us

Jehovah promises that all who obey his requirements will live in peace forever (Ps 37:11, 29)

[Adhere closely to the outlined material, and observe the indicated timing of each section. Not all cited texts need to be read or commented on. See *Ministry School* book, pages 52-55, 166-169]

TO BE COVERED IN 30 MINUTES

© 2020 Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania

S-34-E No. 43 9/20