



FAIRNESSES

Beyond the Whistle: The Hunger for a Just Universe



Sightline™
A CRU MINISTRY



VICTORY BEYOND THE CUP

The Wrong Call

The stadium was shaking with noise. Marcus stood in the front row with his hands gripped tightly around the cold metal railing. His team was tied in the final minutes of a massive game. Then, it happened.

An opposing player tripped Marcus's favorite striker inside the box. It was a clear foul. It was a penalty. But the referee shook his head and waved for the game to continue.

In a split second, the mood of thirty thousand people shifted from excitement to pure rage. Marcus found himself screaming at the top of his lungs. He pointed at the field and demanded fairness. He felt a hot, sharp sting of anger in his chest. It was not just about the score anymore. It was about the fact that something was wrong and nobody was fixing it.

Around him, total strangers were united in the same outcry. They were all calling for the truth to be upheld. They wanted the official to look at the replay and make it right. Marcus felt like his heart was going to burst because of the sheer unfairness of the moment. He knew the rules and he knew they had been broken.





The game ended in a draw. As Marcus walked away from the stadium, he could not stop talking about the missed call. He felt cheated. He felt like the entire result was a lie because justice had not been served.

By the time he got home, the anger about the game began to mix with other thoughts. He thought about a situation at his job where a dishonest coworker had been promoted over him. He thought about the news stories he had seen earlier that day about people being treated unfairly in his own city.

The frustration he felt at the referee was the same frustration he felt about his life. He wanted a world where the rules were followed and where every wrong was corrected. He wanted to believe that someone, somewhere, saw the truth and would act on it.

Marcus sat on his porch in the quiet of the evening. The game was over, but that deep sense of being wronged remained. He realized that he was always looking for fairness, but he rarely found it. He wanted a justice that was perfect and a judge who could not be fooled.

He looked up at the stars and felt a familiar, heavy longing. He wondered if there was anyone in the universe who actually saw every foul, every lie, and every mistake.

If the world was so consistently unfair, why was he so desperate for things to be right?



Popular apologetics questions about justice:

Why does God allow injustice?

How can God be loving and still judge sin?

If God is just, why do bad people prosper?

Isn't judgment outdated or harsh?

Why should anyone trust God's standard of right and wrong?

Built for Justice: The Instinct We Can't Ignore

Nothing inflames a soccer crowd like injustice. A missed call. A dangerous tackle ignored. A goal incorrectly overturned. Instantly, tens of thousands demand fairness. We shout, gesture, and express outrage. We do this because something in us knows the world should be fair.

Why do we demand justice in the game?

We clamor for fairness because it simply feels foundational for life. Even in a simple match, we want wrongs made right, fouls acknowledged, and the truth upheld. This is an extension of a greater desire for what we want to see in the world. We want to see justice correctly administered and we all desire to be treated fairly.

What does this reveal about us?

What these desires reveal about us is a deep moral instinct: the longing for justice isn't taught, it's built into us. But the justice we seek in life, like the justice we seek on the field, is often incomplete. Referees miss calls. Systems fail. People disappoint us. It is not uncommon to hear people lament about how unfair the world seems. We long for fairness, equity, and for justice of all wrongdoing (not just missed calls in games) to be ultimately administered perfectly. However, our longing for justice remains unfulfilled in an unjust world.


What do we do with this longing?

If we long for justice that is complete and perfect, we must look beyond a world that is consistently unjust. We also can't ignore that we ourselves are unjust. However good we consider ourselves to be, we must admit our failure to judge rightly 100% of the time. For these reasons, our longing for justice must be fulfilled outside of us and outside of this world. We must seek the One who judges with absolute righteousness. The Bible reveals a God who sees every wrong, defends the vulnerable, and promises to set all things right. Jesus embodies God's justice by taking judgment for our sins on Himself so that mercy and justice meet at the cross.



Key Takeaway

Christ fulfills our longing for perfect justice. He is both the righteous Judge and the merciful Savior





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