SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL CONTENT

Christian Ethics Column

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*Non-compliant Patients... and Healthcare Systems*

**Discussion Questions**:

1. Abraham asks God, “What is righteousness?” What do you believe the Bible means by “righteousness?” Is righteousness more than just “doing good?” Explain.
2. If you believe all human beings are sinners and in need of a Savior, what can they be expected to understand about righteousness? About the need for a change of heart?
3. This column begins by asking readers to remember a time when… What other events and examples are readers asked to remember in this column? In these situations, is righteousness the same as “fairness or justice?” In terms of punishment and correction, is punishing the many for the sins of one righteous? Is punishing one for the sins of the many righteous? What do you think Abraham and God would say if they continued to dialog about this?
4. In the Genesis story of Sodom and Gomorrah, do you think God’s act of genocide is righteous? Does He consider the evidence; is this action justifiable or is it an act of anger, sheer retaliation? Should God, in all fairness, have offered the citizens of Sodom and Gomorrah a chance for moral “rehab” first?
5. How do you feel about Lot and his family being the only ones saved, how fair is that? When Genesis says, “…God remembered Abraham and sent Lot out…”(Gen 19:29), what do you think this remembrance refers to? In what ways does the salvation of these unrighteous people remind you of God’s righteousness in sending His Son, Jesus?
6. This column makes connections among the stories of teachers’ punishment for non-compliance, Abraham and Lot’s views about ethics, salvation vs. destruction for Sodom and Gomorrah, and today’s health care delivery systems. Discuss the connections you see and how these might help you form a more biblical understanding of righteousness. How might this help you become a better nurse?