

# God's Concern for the Poor-23 (Church & Government)

Opening: Jn 8:31-32; Psa 73:24-25; Eph 4:11-16; 1 Cor 13:4-7, 13.

- A. From God's love to reciprocal love for God and others—Rom. 5:1-11; Luke 10:25-37; 1 John 2:15-16; 1 John 2:15-16; 5:19; Luke 9:23-24; 12:32-34; Prov 14:34; Psa 50:10; Deut 10:14; Matt. 22:17-21; Luke 4:17-21; 6:20-26; 7:22; 8:1-3; 12:15-21; 14:12-13; 16:19-23; Acts 2:42-47; 4:34-35; 6:1-6; Gal. 2:10.**
- B. Through the Bible: Philippians 4:3-7.**
- C. Bible Doctrine The Kingdom of God-16.**
- 1. The Kingdom of God: Col 1:13-18; Matt 6:10; Mat 28:18-19.**
  - 2. God's politics: 7 Foundational Principles.**
  - 3. James and social justice—the socioeconomics of the Kingdom.**
    - a. James 1: The rich, the poor, & true Christian religion.**
    - b. James 2: Classism, social justice, and dead faith.**
    - c. James 3: Slandering and reviling the image of God.**
    - d. James 4: Spiritual adultery and pride.**
    - e. James 5: God's condemnation of laissez-faire.**

<http://www.fbcweb.org/sermons.html>

3-31-18

## Theology

Eschatology  
Thanatology  
Ecclesiology  
Israelology  
Dispensationalism  
Doxology  
Hodology  
Soteriology  
Hamartiology  
Natural Law  
Anthropology  
Angelology  
Pneumatology  
Christology  
Paterology  
Trinitarianism  
Cosmology  
Theology Proper  
Bibliology  
Natural Theology  
Natural Law/Gov (40)

## Foundations/Reality

7 Hermeneutics 45  
-Natural Law-44  
6 Science 51  
5 Language 155  
4 Epistemology 32  
Existence 50  
History 50  
3 Metaphysics 32  
Trans. 50  
2 Reality  
- Logic, 32  
- Truth, 32  
1 Realism – 32

# Distributive justice:

## Govt. safety net:

1. A third-year tithe goes to poor widows, orphans, and sojourners as well as the Levites (Deut. 14:28–29; 26:12).
2. Laws on gleaning stipulated that the corners of the grain fields and the sheaves and grapes that dropped were to be left for the poor, especially widows, orphans, and sojourners (Lev. 19:9–10; Deut. 24:19–21).
3. Every seventh year, fields must remain fallow and the poor may reap the natural growth (Exod. 23:10–11; Lev. 25:1–7).
4. A zero-interest loan must be available to the poor and if the balance is not repaid by the sabbatical year, it is forgiven (Exod. 22:25; Lev. 25:35–38; Deut. 15:1–11).
5. Israelites who become slaves to repay debts go free in the seventh year (Exod. 21:1–11; Lev. 25:47–53; Deut. 15:12–18), and when the freed slaves leave, their temporary “master” must provide liberally, giving the former slaves cattle, grain, and wine (Deut. 15:14) so they can again earn their own way.



**Metaphysics of the common good:**

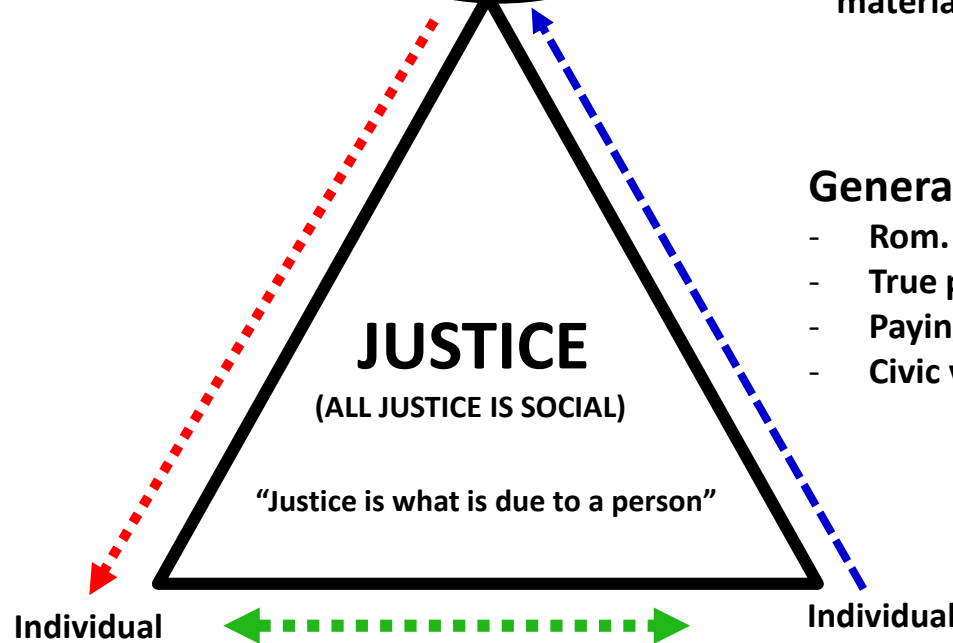
- Immaterial. Components: Truth, virtue, unity, love, righteousness, justice.
- Common good is greater than the individual good.

**What destroys the common good?**

- Individualism, disunity, animosity, materialism, injustice, pragmatism.

## General Justice: Society/govt.

- Rom. 13:1-6
- True patriotism
- Paying taxes
- Civic virtue

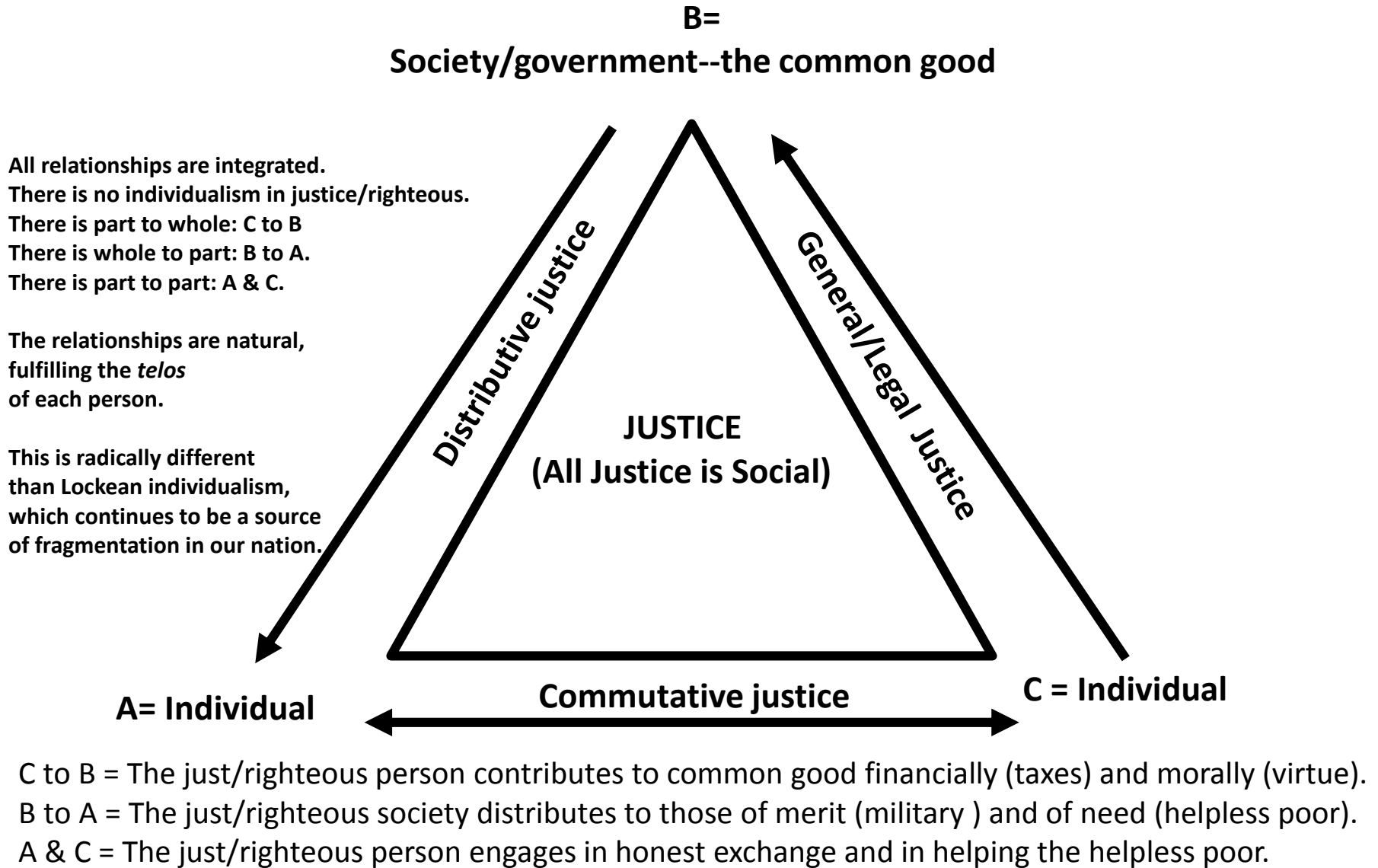


## Commutative justice

- James 5: 1-5, Employers
- Job 31:5-11, Obligation to help the poor

# Metaphysical Realism

# Divine Triangle of Objective Justice



# **Church and Government: 7 views**

- 1. Evangelical: undeveloped, absorbs culture.**
- 2. Anabaptist: separatist.**
- 3. Lutheran: paradoxical.**
- 4. Black church: prophetic.**
- 5. Reformed: transformational.**
- 6. Roman Catholic: synthetic.**
- 7. Metaphysical Realism: God's politics, the better way of Jesus.**