

Someone has said that it is better that 10 criminals escape punishment than that one innocent man be punished, and that is the general attitude recently. It is that of tremendous sympathy for the criminal lest a man be unjustly treated. We cannot expect that there be complete and full justice in this world. We must do the best we can toward it but that is not our ultimate objective. I believe the statement that it is better that 10 criminals go unpunished than that one innocent man suffer should be replaced by the statement: It would be better that 10 innocent men suffer than that 100 law abiding citizens be murdered, or robbed or mistreated on the streets because nothing was done to deter criminals from violence and wickedness. The purpose of human law is to deter. It is to make it safe for those who try to live good lives and to follow the law. But God's law works everything out in perfect justice but in order to see how it is just you have to take the next world into consideration.

I once sat on the platform of Union Theological Seminary. It was quite unexpected/ I was a student at Princeton seminary, and some fellow said, Let's go to New York for the week end. And they said Dean Inge, the famous so-called gloomy dean from England is speaking this morning in the Union Seminary Chapel. Let's go and hear him. So I went. And when I got there the place was full. And the man at the door said, Oh every seat is taken, but here are some chairs on the back of the platform. You fellows come up here and sit. And Dean Inge spoke. He spoke on the text in Gen., "Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" which you remember Abraham said to God in trying to get him to spare Sodom - "Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" And then Dean Inge explain started in one way to explain how everything is just in this earth and proved it didn't work; and then he took another way and proved it didn't work. and then he took another and proved it didn't work, and after taking all of these then he said, Now there are some people who say that you don't get justice in this life but then there is a next life in which everything will be worked out in which there will be perfect justice, but he said, We don't know anything about that. We don't know whether there is anything to that or not so you certainly can't consider an argument like that. So his conclusion was we don't know whether the Judge of all the earth does right or not. Well, that's liberal