Ecclesiastes 4:1-3 – Compassion for the Oppressed
July 14, 2019 – Pastor Nick Neves

In the closing verses of chapter 3, Solomon was able to work through a great _____ dilemma: the existence of injustice in a world that is sovereignly ruled by a perfect God.

- There will be a season for perfect justice, but it is not yet time.
- Meanwhile, the presence of injustice teaches us the serious error of wandering from God, who is the only trustworthy King.

As chapter 4 begins, Solomon engages with the _____ dilemma of injustice: how do we handle living in a world where justice is not yet a reality?

Ecclesiastes 4:1-3 will show us that injustice is an unavoidable reality, but we are to minister in love to those who suffer from it, and sincerely long for the true justice that is to come.

What leads to injustice and oppression?
"An imbalance of _____ that is exploited by those who have the advantage, but lack _____."

Why is injustice *more* than simply an 'imbalance of power'?

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_____

The solution to oppression is not a total _____ of power.

As we observe the heartbreaking reality of oppression, It is very tempting to believe that our greatest opponent is _____ of ourselves rather than _____.

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When we speak of injustice, we must keep in mind that the greatest injustice is NOT perpetrated by man against man, the greatest injustice is perpetrated by each of us against our God!

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How do we respond to the injustice and oppression that we see all around us?

1. **Strive to show _____ to those who are oppressed.**

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2. **Help the oppressed to ____ what their heartache and despair will not allow them to ____.**

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