

Questions

1. What is one issue with the seeing love and justice as the same?
 - a. One issue that Hollinger addresses is how love alone cannot bring justice to pressing issues such as racism or social injustice, but instead more action is required.
2. What is Hollinger's argument about why freedom and justice are not the same?
 - a. Freedom for some individuals requires restricting justice for others, so they are not equal ideas.
3. What is one shortcoming of an egalitarian approach to justice?
 - a. Taking an egalitarian approach alone cannot make up for past injustices and therefore not leading to equal footing for all at all.
4. What is one strength of a need approach to justice?
 - a. A need approach to justice has biblical roots as scripture speaks of God caring for the poor and needy and desires justice for them.
5. What is one argument for the government not taking an active role in distributive justice?
 - a. One argument is stating that by the government giving rights to larger society it takes away freedom from company owners.

Terms

Retributive: justice based on punishment for an offense

distributive: justice seeking to distribute resources in a fair manner.

meritorious: justice which focuses on deservingness based on actions or character.

Summary

The chapter speaks on the pursuit of justice and the Christian interactions to it. Hollinger begins by distinguishing between retributive and distributive justice and address more towards distributive justice. The Bible has several teachings on justice and is warranted as important to God making it worth understanding and studying. Hollinger also address distinctions between the ideas of love and justice as well as freedom and justice. Justice requires more active action than the western idea of love and compassion. At the same time, freedom and justice are not the same as justice costs freedom of some. There are various definitions of justice including merit-based, based on a person's morality or virtue, egalitarian justice, based on equal footing for all people regardless of appearances, and need justice, based on giving to the less fortunate. Hollinger presents each of these ideas to present how Christians can interact with the idea of justice and to point out flaws in a humanity based justice while comparing it to God's perfect justice.