

Is Justice Blind?

What does the Bible Say?

By Sabbath Lounge



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Who is Lady Justice?

A look at Blind Justice

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Who is Lady Justice?

An Egyptian goddess "Maat"

Greek goddess "Themis"

Roman goddess "Justitia"



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Who is Lady Justice?

The Egyptian goddess "Maat" or "Isis"

Was not blind.

She Judged men's hearts after death with a
feather scale



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Who is Lady Justice?

The Egyptian goddess "Maat"

Was not to "upset" the law and order.

Rich to stay rich and poor to stay poor.

Gives order to chaos. Without Maat it became chaos.



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Who is Lady Justice?

The Egyptian goddess "Maat"

Was to give bread to the hungry and clothe the
naked.



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Who is Lady Justice?

Maat as a principle was formed to meet the complex needs of the emergent Egyptian state that embraced diverse peoples with conflicting interests. The development of such rules sought to avert chaos and it became the basis of Egyptian law. From an early period the king would describe himself as the "Lord of Maat" who decreed with his mouth the Maat he conceived in his heart.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maat>



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Who is Lady Justice?

Greek goddess "Themis"

Not Blind.

Mother was "Gaia" and father was "Uranus"

Gives man rules and enforces through "nemesis"



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Who is Lady Justice?

Roman goddess "Justitia" or "Astraea" Blinded?

Why?

Since the 16th century, Lady Justice has often been depicted wearing a blindfold. The blindfold was originally a satirical addition intended to show justice as blind to the injustice carried on before her, but it has been reinterpreted over time and is now understood to represent impartiality, the ideal that justice should be applied without regard to wealth, power, or other status. The earliest Roman coins depicted Justitia with the sword in one hand and the scale in the other, but with her eyes uncovered.

Justitia was only commonly represented as "blind" since the middle of the 16th century. The first known representation of blind Justice is Hans Gieng's 1543 statue on the Gerechtigkeitsbrunnen (Fountain of Justice) in Bern.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lady_Justice

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Who is Lady Justice?

Roman goddess "Justitia"

Instead of using the Janus approach, many sculptures simply leave out the blindfold altogether. For example, atop the Old Bailey courthouse in London, a statue of Lady Justice stands without a blindfold; the courthouse brochures explain that this is because Lady Justice was originally not blindfolded, and because her "maidenly form" is supposed to guarantee her impartiality which renders the blindfold redundant.

Another variation is to depict a blindfolded Lady Justice as a human scale, weighing competing claims in each hand. An example of this can be seen at the Shelby County Courthouse in Memphis, Tennessee.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lady_Justice



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Who is Lady Justice?

Fortuna and Blindness

"Medieval representations of Fortune emphasize her duality and instability, such as two faces side by side like Janus; one face smiling the other frowning; half the face white the other black; she may be blindfolded but without scales, blind to justice. She was associated with the cornucopia, ship's rudder, the ball and the wheel. The cornucopia is where plenty flows from, the Helmsman's rudder steers fate, the globe symbolizes chance (who gets good or bad luck), and the wheel symbolizes that luck, good or bad, never lasts."

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fortuna>

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Who is Lady Justice?

Fortuna and Blindness

The blindness seems to be connected to being blind to partiality but in Roman context it was connected to fate and fortune.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fortuna>

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Who is Lady Justice?

Is Justice Blind?

Being a blind justice is not good
They don't have vision
They stumble around

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fortuna>



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1 Samuel 12:3

3 Behold, here I am: witness against me before the Lord, and before his anointed: whose ox have I taken? or whose ass have I taken? or whom have I defrauded? whom have I oppressed? or of whose hand have I received any bribe to blind mine eyes therewith? and I will restore it you.



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Is Justice Blind?

PROVERBS 28:27

**27 HE THAT GIVETH UNTO THE POOR SHALL
NOT LACK: BUT HE THAT HIDETH HIS EYES
SHALL HAVE MANY A CURSE.**



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EXODUS 23:8

**8 AND THOU SHALT TAKE NO GIFT: FOR THE GIFT
BLINDETH THE WISE, AND PERVERTETH THE
WORDS OF THE RIGHTEOUS.**



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DEUTERONOMY 16:19

19 THOU SHALT NOT WREST JUDGMENT; THOU SHALT NOT RESPECT PERSONS, NEITHER TAKE A GIFT: FOR A GIFT DOTH BLIND THE EYES OF THE WISE, AND PERVERT THE WORDS OF THE RIGHTEOUS.



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