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## **Good news about injustice: a witness of courage in a hurting world**

### **Buenas noticias sobre la injusticia: un testimonio de valor en un mundo de dolor**

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Equip the Saints

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Estados Unidos de América

By Gary A. Haugen. (Downers Grove, IL: Inter-Varsity Press, 1999. Pp. 1-200.)

Ubiquitous across the world globe, injustice negatively impacts the well-being, happiness, and very lives of millions of people. Our God hates injustice. Our Lord Jesus strongly emphasized justice and service to the oppressed as a behavioral trait of those who were welcome in his presence; and made it exceptionally clear that the unjust were simply not welcome (Matthew 25:31-46).

Having just read Kay Warren's book, *Dangerous Surrender*, I stand amazed at the amount of congruence between Kay's experience, inner struggles, and call from God to fight AIDS, to comfort victims, and to serve orphans and Gary Haugen's experience and call to fight injustice as he explains his life and ministry in *Good News About Injustice*. In the preface to Kay's book, Rick Warren expresses his shock at the realization, in mid-career ministry, that he had been overlooking the three hundred plus passages of Scripture which intensely direct Christians to serve the poor, the widows, the fatherless, the aliens, and the oppressed.

In the same conceptualization, Gary Haugen focuses upon Scriptural expectations that Christians seek justice and fight against injustice. The Bible emphasizes that God hates injustice second only to the Divine hatred of idolatry. But, Haugen marvels with us that although injustice is a major theme of Old and New Testaments, few Christians brought up in the church have heard sermons preached on the subject of injustice; and that most likely you and I have never explored injustice with others in a Bible study or in Sunday school class.

The simple, straightforward explanation of Haugen's call by God gives insight to every Christian's call to evangelize, minister, and serve -- to your call from God as well as my call. Haugen's call began with his increased awareness of the amount and extent of injustice across the globe and the intense human suffering and despair injustice causes. He includes examples of injustice to illustrate his call, to emphasize the source of injustice (the misuse of power), and particular cases which he and his colleagues have fought and won. *Good News About Injustice* further explains International Justice Mission and the continuing fight against injustice in the present world.