



Deuteronomy 22

(2019)

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Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Deuteronomy 22.

(A brief overview of the main topics).

INTRODUCTION: this is a continuation of the previous chapter; Israel is soon to cross over the River Jordan and enter into the Promised Land. The primary focus of all the following chapters is upon Moses re-telling to the new generation about to cross the River Jordan all the covenant laws the LORD originally gave to Israel at Mount Sinai so that the new generation would renew the covenant with the LORD before they enter the Promised Land. The final chapter finishes with the LORD burying Moses and Joshua being ready to lead Israel over the River Jordan and into the Promised Land (see also the introduction to chapter one).

NOTE: for information of people, places and the meaning of words see Map Locations and People of the Bible, and Bible Dictionary on Website Menu.

DEUTERONOMY 22 (ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION)

- **Deuteronomy 22:1-30** “You shall not see your brother’s ox or his sheep going astray and ignore them. You shall take them back to your brother. ² And if he does not live near you and you do not know who he is, you shall bring it home to your house, and it shall stay with you until your brother seeks it. Then you shall restore it to him. ³ And you shall do the same with his donkey or with his garment, or with any lost thing of your brother’s, which he loses and you find; you may not ignore it. ⁴ You shall not see your brother’s donkey or his ox fallen down by the way and ignore them. You shall help him to lift them up again. ⁵ “A woman shall not wear a man’s garment, nor shall a man put on a woman’s cloak, for whoever does these things is an abomination to the LORD your God. ⁶ “If you come across a bird’s nest in any tree or on the ground, with young ones or eggs and the mother sitting on the young or on the eggs, you shall not take the mother with the young. ⁷ You shall let the mother go, but the young you may take for yourself, that it may go well with you, and that you may live long. ⁸ “When you build a new house, you shall make a parapet for your roof, that you may not bring the guilt of blood upon your house, if anyone should fall from it. ⁹ “You shall not sow your vineyard with two kinds of seed, lest the whole yield be forfeited, the crop that you have sown and the yield of the vineyard. ¹⁰ You shall not plow with an ox and a donkey together. ¹¹ You shall not wear cloth of wool and linen mixed together. ¹² “You shall make yourself tassels on the four corners of the garment with which you cover yourself. ¹³ “If any man takes a wife and goes in to her and then hates her ¹⁴ and accuses her of misconduct and brings a bad name upon her, saying, ‘I took this woman, and when I came near her, I did not find in her evidence of virginity,’ ¹⁵ then the father of the young woman and her mother shall take and bring out the evidence of her virginity to the elders of the city in the gate. ¹⁶ And the father of the young woman shall say to the elders, ‘I gave my daughter to this man to marry, and he hates her; ¹⁷ and behold, he has accused her of misconduct, saying, “I did not find in your daughter evidence of virginity.” And yet this is the evidence of my daughter’s virginity.’ And they shall spread the cloak before the elders of the city. ¹⁸ Then the elders of that city shall take the man and whip him, ¹⁹ and they shall fine him a hundred shekels of silver and give them to the father of the young woman, because he has brought a bad name upon a virgin of Israel. And she shall be his wife. He may not divorce her all his days. ²⁰ But if the thing is true, that evidence of virginity was not found in the young woman, ²¹ then they shall bring out the young woman to the door of her father’s house, and the men of her city shall stone her to death with stones, because she has done an outrageous thing in Israel by whoring in her father’s house. So you shall purge the evil from your midst. ²² “If a man is found lying with the wife of another man, both of them shall die, the man who lay with the woman, and the woman. So you shall purge the evil from Israel. ²³ “If there is a betrothed virgin, and a man meets her in the city and lies with her, ²⁴ then you shall bring them both out to the gate of that city, and you shall stone them to death with stones, the young woman because she did not cry for help though she was in the city, and the man because he violated his neighbor’s wife. So you shall purge the evil from your midst. ²⁵ “But if in the open country a man meets a young woman who is betrothed, and the man seizes her and lies with her, then only the man who lay with her shall die. ²⁶ But you shall do nothing to the young woman; she has committed no offense punishable by death. For this case is like that of a man attacking and murdering his neighbor, ²⁷ because he met her in the open country, and though the betrothed young

woman cried for help there was no one to rescue her.²⁸ “If a man meets a virgin who is not betrothed, and seizes her and lies with her, and they are found,²⁹ then the man who lay with her shall give to the father of the young woman fifty shekels of silver, and she shall be his wife, because he has violated her. He may not divorce her all his days.³⁰ “A man shall not take his father’s wife, so that he does not uncover his father’s nakedness.

Laws for lost property

Israel was not to see their brother's ox or his sheep going astray and ignore them they were to take them back to their brother. If the person who lost them does not live near to the one who found them and they do not know who he is they were to take it to their house and it was to stay with them until their brother seeks it, then they were to restore it to him. Israel was to do the same with any lost thing of their brother's they could not ignore it, they were not to see their brother's donkey or his ox fallen down and ignore them they were to help him to lift them up again.

Various Laws

- A woman was not to wear a man's garment and a man was not to put on a woman's cloak, it is an abomination to the LORD.
- When a bird's nest with young ones or eggs in it with the mother sitting on the young or on the eggs was found, they were not to take the mother with the young. The mother was to be let go but the young could be taken.
- When a new house was built it had to have a parapet for the roof so that if anyone should fall from it they would not bring the guilt of blood upon the house.
- A vineyard was not to be sown with two kinds of seed because the whole yield could be forfeited. When the seed produced the fruit of the crop that was sown and the seed of the grapes produced the grapes of the vineyard the two fruits may not mix or attract insects to the field and both crops could be destroyed.
- An ox and a donkey could not plow together (probably because they move at different speeds and would hinder each other)
- A coth of wool and linen could not to be mixed together (maybe because clothing was not to appeal to vanity or be a fashion garment).
- Tassels were to be made on the four corners of the garment with which they covered themselves (perhaps to identify them as Jewish).

Laws for a man who takes a wife, but later suspects her of having sex before marriage and it is proven false

If any man takes a wife and goes in to her and then hates her because he suspects she is not a virgin and accuses her of misconduct and brings a bad name upon her, if he says I took this woman and when I came near her, I did not find in her evidence of virginity. Then the father of the young woman and her mother was to bring out the evidence of her virginity to the elders of the city in the gate. He was to say to the elders, I gave my daughter to this man to marry, and he hates her and has accused my daughter of misconduct, saying, "I did not find in your daughter evidence of virginity" and then he was to show the cloak of his daughters evidence of virginity. The elders would spread the cloak out before the elders of the city, then take the man and whip him and fine him a hundred shekels of

silver and give them to the father of the young woman, because he brought a bad name upon a virgin of Israel and the woman would be his wife, he could not divorce her all his days.

Laws for a man who takes a wife and later suspects her of having sex before marriage and it is proven true

If the man's suspicion is true and evidence of virginity was not found in the young woman, then the elders of the city were to take the young woman to the door of her father's house and at the door of the young woman's house the men of her city were to stone her to death with stones, she was to be stoned because she had done an outrageous thing in Israel by whoring in her father's house.

Laws for adultery

If a man is found lying with the wife of another man, both of them shall die, the man who lay with the woman and the woman.

Laws for a betrothed woman who has sex with another man

If there is a betrothed virgin and a man meets her in the city and lies with her and the woman does not cry out for help, they were to be brought out to the gate of that city and stoned to death, the young woman, because she did not cry for help though she was in the city and the man because he violated his neighbour's wife.

Laws for rape of a betrothed woman

If in the open country a man meets a young woman who is betrothed, and the man seizes her and lies with her and the young woman cried for help and there was no one to rescue her. Only the man who lay with her was to die. Nothing was to be done to the young woman because she had committed no offence punishable by death. A case like this is like that of a man attacking and murdering his neighbour because the man met her in the open country and though the betrothed young woman cried for help there was no one to rescue her.

Laws for rape of a single woman

If a man meets a virgin who is not betrothed and seizes her and lies with her and they are found, the man who lay with the young woman was to give her father fifty shekels of silver and the young woman then was to be his wife, because he had violated her, the man could not divorce her all his days.

Laws for a mother's son

A man was not to take his father's wife sexually, so that he does not uncover his father's nakedness.

CONCLUSION

If Israel kept these rules it would purge the evil from among them.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.

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