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Exodus 22

(2020)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



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.

Exodus 22.

(A brief overview of the main topics).

Topics.

- Rules for stealing and livestock.
- Rules for fire and rules for borrowing.
- Rules for trust and for hiring.
- Rules for sex before marriage and for sorcerers.
- Rules for sex with animals and for sacrifices to other Gods.
- Rules for the sojourner and for widows and orphans that brings the death penalty.
- Rules for lending and interest.
- Rules for promises and for cursing.
- Rules for the firstborn and for meat.

INTRODUCTION: in the book of Exodus, God fulfilled His promise to Abraham by multiplying Abraham's descendants into a great nation delivering them from slavery in Egypt to journey to the Promised Land, and then binding them to Himself with a covenant at Mount Sinai. Moses, under the direct command of God and as leader of Israel, received the Ten Commandments from God, along with other laws governing Israel's life and worship. He also led the nation in building the Tabernacle, a place where God's presence can dwell among his people and where they can make sacrifices for sin. Most Jews and Christians recognise Moses as the author, writing sometime after the Exodus from Egypt (about 1445 B.C.). Note: the promise God made to Abraham will be perfectly fulfilled when Christ returns in glory and all those (Jews and Gentiles) who belong to God's Kingdom are gathered to him. (See also the introduction to chapter one).

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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.

This chapter is all about civil rules God gave to the nation of Israel they are laws concerning social justice that the government of Israel was to implement within their society. These laws are not given to the secular world, but to the nation of Israel.

RULES FOR STEALING

- If a man steals an ox or a sheep and kills it or sells it, he is to repay five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep.
- If a stolen beast is found alive in the possession of a thief, whether it is an ox or a donkey or a sheep, he shall pay double.
- If a thief is found breaking in and is struck and he dies, the person who struck him shall not be held guilty.
- If the thief lives, he is to pay and if he has nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft.

RULES FOR LIVESTOCK

- If a man let's his beast loose and it feeds in another man's field, he shall make restitution from the beast in his own field and in his own vineyard.

RULES FOR FIRE

- If fire breaks out so that the stacked grain or the standing grain or the field is consumed, he who started the fire shall make full restitution.

RULES FOR BORROWING

- If a man gives his neighbour money or goods to keep safe and it is stolen from the man's house, then if the thief is found, he shall pay double, but if the thief is not found, the owner of the house shall come near to God to show whether he has taken his neighbour's property. If God condemns him, he shall pay double. The words, "If God condemns them," means if the judges find them guilty.

RULES FOR TRUST

- Anyone who makes a breach of trust, whether it is for an ox, a donkey, a sheep, a cloak, or for any kind of lost thing shall pay double to their neighbour.
- If a man gives his neighbour an animal to keep safe and it dies or is injured or is driven away, without anyone seeing it, the man is to make an oath before the LORD to see whether or not the man has put his hand to his neighbour's property. The owner of the animal is to accept the oath and is not to ask for restitution, but if the man has stolen it from him, he shall make restitution to its owner. If beasts tore the animal, the man is to bring it as evidence and the owner is not to ask for restitution for what has been torn.
- If a man borrows anything of his neighbour and it is injured or dies and the owner was not with it, he shall make full restitution. It appears that if it is borrowed and not hired, he would make full restitution for it whether he is with it or not.

RULES FOR HIRING

- If a man hires anything of his neighbour and it is injured or dies and the owner was not with it he shall make full restitution but if the owner was with it, he shall not make restitution because it came for its hiring fee.

RULES FOR SEX BEFORE MARRIAGE

- If a man seduces a virgin who is not engaged to be married and lies with her, he shall give the bride-price for her and make her his wife. If her father utterly refuses to give her to him, the man is to pay money equal to the bride-price for virgins.

RULES FOR SORCERERS

- A sorcerer is not permitted to live.

RULES FOR SEX WITH ANIMALS

- If anyone lies with an animal they are to be put to death.

RULES FOR SACRIFICES TO OTHER GODS

- If anyone sacrifices to any god, other than the LORD they are to be put to death.

RULES FOR THE SOJOURNER

- Israel is not to do wrong to a sojourner or oppress him because they were sojourners in the land of Egypt.

RULES FOR WIDOWS AND ORPHANS (BRINGS THE DEATH PENALTY)

- The widow or fatherless children are not to be mistreated. If they are mistreated, God will kill those mistreating them with the sword (by war).

RULES FOR LENDING AND INTEREST

- Israel is not to charge interest when they lend money to the people of the LORD who are poor.

RULES FOR PROMISES

- If a neighbour's cloak is taken in pledge, it is to be returned before the sun goes down, because it is his only covering and in what else shall he sleep?

RULES FOR CURSING

- God or the ruler of the people, are not to be reviled or cursed.

RULES FOR THE FIRSTBORN

- Israel is to immediately offer the firstfruits of their harvest, their sons, their oxen and sheep.
- The firstborn of oxen and of sheep is to be with its mother for seven days and on the eighth day it is to be given to the LORD.

RULES FOR MEAT

- Israel is not to eat any flesh that is torn by beasts in the field because they are to be consecrated to the LORD.

LAWS THAT BROUGHT THE DEATH PENALTY

A sorcerer, anyone who lies with an animal and whoever sacrifices to any god, other than the LORD all these are to be put to death.

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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