

EXODUS 22 – MORE LAWS...

I. (1-4) Restitution required in cases of theft.

Exodus 20:15 - "You shall not steal.

A thief was required to **restore** what he stole, plus an additional penalty; one cow-five cows, one sheep-four sheep.

One had the right to protect their property from theft – no guilt if the thief is killed in the process. A thief not able to restore the stolen and pay the penalty was to be given to employment so they can pay with their earnings.

II. (5-15) Restitution required in case of irresponsibility.

Restitution was required in case ones cow eats up another's field, one starts a fire burning up another's field, losing another's property in your custody and losing borrowed property.

III. (16-17) Law against pre-marital sex.

If a man lured a virgin into premarital sex, they were to pay bride price and marry them. If the girl's parents didn't want to give her daughter to him, he was charged a set fee for the offense.

1 Corinthians 6:18-20 – *Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside his body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.*

IV. (18-20) Three capital crimes.

Sorcery/witchcraft, is operating with satanic or demonic forces to influence human activity towards one's preference. Offenders were to be killed.

Bestiality and idolatry were also punishable by death.

V. (21-27) Laws of compassion.

- **Strangers** were supposed to be welcomed and taken care of. Israel's own experience of being **strangers** in Egypt should have given them appropriate sympathy for strangers in their midst.

Hebrews 13:2 – *Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels.*

1 Peter 4:9 - *Be hospitable to one another without grumbling.*

- Widows and orphans were to be cared for; failure would lead to God's wrath.
Zechariah 7:10 - *Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the alien or the poor. Let none of you plan evil in his heart against his brother.'*
- The poor; interest was prohibited on loans made to the poor and the taking of collateral had to be reasonable.
Proverbs 19:17 - *He who has pity on the poor lends to the LORD, and He will pay back what he has given.*
Galatians 2:10 - *They desired only that we should remember the poor, the very thing which I also was eager to do.*

VI. (28-31) Holiness and separation to God.

- No blaspheming God and leaders.
1 Timothy 2:1-2 - *Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.*
- Offer first-fruits and firstborn to God.

Since the firstborn was always regarded as best, it was a demonstrated way to give the best to God.

This would remind Israel that God regarded them as His firstborn, His favored people.

This also would remind Israel that God spared their firstborn when He judged the firstborn of Egypt.

- No eating meat of animals torn by beasts