

VICTIM'S RIGHTS

EXODUS 22:16-23:9

JUSTICE FOR ALL IN GOD'S ECONOMY

- Intro: 1. Pledge to American Flag monologue—countered today by the statement “Keep out of my business!”
2. Have you carried that juvenile saying into your adult life when it comes to God's influence in your life?
 3. Assuming the best, that you want God's wisdom to impact your life & humanity for the good, then Exodus 22:16 challenges you to achieve justice for all...

Prop: **You must Live Compassionately!**

I. By Enforcing Consequences for Social Abuses (Ex.22:16-24).

1. v.16, “entice” = to open; allure, deceive, flatter
v.18, “live” = to revive; nourish(give them a living—cf.Dt.18:9-14
v.19, “lieth” = for sexual satisfaction—cf.Heb.13:4 prop.context
v.21, “vex” = to rage;be violent (oppress or force)
v.21, “stranger” = prop. a guest; impl. a foreigner
v.22, “afflict” = look down on or depress, literally or figuratively
v.24, “kill you with a sword” = by other nations & judgments (see Dt.32:21, note Babylonian Exiles later in Israel's history)
2. Personal life always effects others—so it is not private business as usual.
3. Before it comes to God's judgment upon a nation, the people must understand the importance of mutual human respect. Social justice is best defined by a method of law and consequence dealing with the offender & prevention of offense.
4. Traditionally, and biblically, in a family setting with children in the home, when a fight breaks out, injury is inflicted or a violation is made of one to the other child, who gets the major attention from the parents to resolve the situation now and in the future? The violator/instigator according to Prov. 19:15
5. Folks, will you demonstrate compassion toward others by committing to enforcing tough-love in your family, in your sphere of influence in society, in order to preserve liberty and justice as God intended it to be, for all.

II. By Being Accountable for Personal Holiness (Exo.22:25-31).

1. v.25, “userer/y” = creditor / interest
v.27, “gracious” = kind; courteous; compassionate
v.28, “revile” = make light of; bring into contempt (cf.Ex.20:7)

v.28, “the gods” [Heb. pl. Elohim] = judges; civil magistrates
v.28, “ruler” = exalted one (ie king, captain, governor)

2. When self-respect is tied to a kind spirit, then compassion toward others is the result.
3. In the O.T., lending was for relief of poverty and generosity was expressed in not charging interest. Capital gains borrowing and lending did develop, and was endorsed by Jesus in Matt.25:27 and Luke 19:23. But, one's personal gain is always to be balanced by charitable exercise. Power was not to be abused, yet neither was it to be mocked. Believers should be the citizens a nation desires, not the citizens who are disdained (Rom.13:6-10)
4. As much a travesty as the systematic removal of the Word of God from public places is its irrelevance in personal practices
5. Will you, dear one, resolve today to set the wrong of selfish dealings right with others and commit yourself today to being accountable to God for righteous living?

III. By Upholding A Public Witness of Right (Exo.23:1-9).

1. v.2, “wrest” = to stretch/spread out; bend away; let down (to water down the appointed consequences of justice)
v.3, “countenance” = to swell up; favor (look toward)=bias (poverty or wealth was not to influence accountability)
v.5, “forebear” = lay aside your own business
v.6, “judgment” = verdict (don't water it down out of pity)
2. Compassion is not waving penalty, but preventing purgery.
3. Sympathy is driven by emotion; Empathy by experience.
4. The source of righteous living is following the God who shows us what is right and wrong—Matt.5:17; Luke 9:56; Jn.10:10
5. Friend, Do you want to have a heart that can live right? Then, come to Jesus today for a new heart, forgiven & made right?

Conc: Pledge to the Christian Flag monologue.

Dear friend, every one of us, in doing our own business, have fallen short, failed and cannot find fulfillment in life in ourselves. You can only find the key to living compassionately when you receive the compassion that Christ has shown for you.

Will you come, receive Christ as Savior; If you have trusted Christ, then will you come to join Trinity Baptist Church to learn more of His way for you and follow Him in obedience of baptism?

Invit. Hymn: His Way with Thee ('56BH, #329)



Children's Challenge

EXODUS 22:16 – 23:9

CONSEQUENCES: (List two consequences described in 22:16-24.)

1. _____ 2. _____

Now, list 4 types of people God protected by law:

1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____

RESPONSIBILITY: (Who is God speaking to in 22:25-31?

circle the correct answer.) HIS FOLLOWERS STRANGERS
NATIONAL LEADERS ANIMALS BUSINESS OWNERS

**Now, find God's special word that means a good life that honors
God's ways and respects other humans:**

- APPY to do the RIGHT THING
 N the RIGHT PATH
 IVING in the RIGHT WAY
 IELDING to the RIGHT INFLUENCES

WITNESS: (Examine 23:1-9 to complete the following crossword.)

Down:

1. Someone you do not know
2. A kind deed is to ___ others

Across:

3. Bribe = "take no _____"
4. Another word for multitude
5. A false report is a _____
6. To be low on money

				1		
	3					
			4			
	2					
	5					
	6					