

# Sermon Reflections

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*Just Payback (Part 1) Exodus 22:1-20*

**Summary:** A just God demands His people to do justly. Give people the good they are due.

## 1. Give back what is due (Exodus 22:1-17)

- God enshrines responsibility regarding personal property. Have you ever been responsible for the loss or damage of someone else's property? What was your reaction? Were you more concerned about *your* financial loss than biblical recompense? Were you perhaps too quick to accept a "it's ok, don't worry about it" from the lender? Read Matthew 6:24. Is it possible that you might be serving two masters?
- Read Matthew 6:33. Whose kingdom are we to be seeking *first* when we accidentally are at fault in these situations regarding other's property?
- God values life above all else as we see *specifically* in v.3: "but if the sun has risen...". What would be a modern-day example of this?
- What would your reaction be to a thief involving your personal property? Would God approve of your heart-motives? Would you be tempted to take irreversible actions while defending your personal property? What should your attitude be?
- Stealing, crime, SIN...it doesn't pay! Considering the sexual immorality on display in vv. 16-17, what thoughts come to mind regarding God's view of marriage? With the term "bride price" in view (v.16), why would the loss of a woman's virginity be considered such a grievous theft requiring justice?

## 2. Give God what is His due (Exodus 22:18-20)

- God does not tolerate competitors. What unrighteousness is described in vv. 18-20? When considering Romans 1:18-32, why is God's righteous anger so pronounced against this type of sin?
- Read Romans 1:24-25 and Exodus 32:2-4. What were these people worshiping and what is this called? Read Colossians 3:5-6. Why should we be concerned with God's hatred of idolatry?
- All that we are belongs to the Lord... Referring to our subject verses in Exodus 22:20; God demands sacrifices to Him... alone! What about the things in your own life that "compete" for your affections? Can competing interests & affections be a potential problem or a concern? Why or why not?
- Read Galations 2:20. Who lives in all believers? In sum, is there room in your heart for anything else?

*All praise to the risen Christ who devotes Himself to those who were once devoted to destruction!*