

Sermon: Law and Love.
Series: Exodus: From Slavery to Glory.

Scripture: Exodus 22:16-33:19.
Date: March 26, 2023

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about God?

- a) Look at 22:27. God describes himself as compassionate. Where do we see God's compassion in this text? Where have you seen God's compassion in your own life recently?
- b) In this text God gives his people laws to obey and feasts to celebrate. Why does proper worship of God require BOTH obedience and celebration? What happens when we have one without the other? Is your life more obedience, celebration, both or neither?

2. What does this passage teach us about us?

- a) Everything in this passage can be summed up as "Love God and love your neighbor." In what ways have you failed to live up to these two laws this week? Be specific.

3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

- a) Look again at the justice laws in 22:16-23:9. In what ways was Jesus treated unjustly while on earth (look especially at 23:7)? In what ways did he live out the justice described here?
- b) Look again at the Sabbath and festival laws in 23:10-19. Talk about how the feasts of Unleavened Bread (Passover), Harvest (Pentecost), and Ingathering point to Jesus as the ultimate celebration of God's provision for us?

APPLICATION

- a) Several practical areas were covered in this sermon. What is one commitment to love and justice that you need to make in one of these areas: Sexual purity (22:16-17); Kindness to outsiders (22:21-24; 23:9); Justice for the poor (22:25-27); Giving (22:29-30); Love of enemy (23:4-5).
- b) How can you and your family/friends work a rhythm of celebration into your life. Work – Rest – Celebration. Be specific.

FIGHTER VERSES: Romans 13:8-10.

PRAYER

- Celebrate God's provision in your life.
- Confess ways that you have failed to love God and neighbor.
- Thank Jesus for fulfilling all justice for you.
- Ask God to help you to both obey and celebrate him.