

June 19, 2022

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“Pursuing Justice and Mercy”

Scripture: Exodus 21:1-17

Memory Verse: Mark 10:45

Introduction

- A. Why study these case laws? (2 Timothy 3:16–17)
- B. 1 Peter 2:9-10
- C. We do not need to implement these “rules” in our society today.
- D. We do need to apply godly principles based on these “rules.”
- E. Big Idea: God requires his people to pursue justice and demonstrate mercy toward others.

I. Slavery (21:1-11)

- A. Time-limited Service (21:1-4)
- B. Voluntary Permanent Service (21:5-6)
- C. Protection for Female Slaves (21:7-11)
- D. As redeemed slaves we should always be concerned to treat the least among us with dignity, justice, and mercy.
- E. Matthew 25:40
- F. Mark 9:35
- G. Mark 10:45
- H. Philippians 2:5-8

II. Capital Punishment (21:12-17)

- A. Murder requires the death penalty.
- B. Genesis 9:5-6
- C. Numbers 35:9–15
- D. What can we learn?
 - 1. Sin is serious.
 - 2. God is instructing his people how to treat slaves and carry out punishment for capital crimes.
 - 3. God is instructing his people in the ways of righteousness for a theocratic society.
 - 4. God’s people are to pursue justice and demonstrate mercy toward others.
 - 5. Human life is sacred.

Conclusion

- A. The justice and mercy that God calls us to pursue in our relationships are most perfectly exemplified in Jesus Christ.
- B. Jesus displayed righteousness in his obedient life before God’s Law and reached down to us in our weakness.

C. Romans 5:6-8
D. The Gospel Definition