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“Retribution and Restitution”

Exodus 21:18-22:15

Memory Verses: Luke 19:9-10

Big Idea: We are to glorify God in our everyday lives by the way we honor him and treat others.

I. Retribution Is Required (21:18-36)

- A. Retribution—a punishment for the crime.
- B. Every crime is a sin against God and deserves his displeasure.
- C. But some crimes do more damage than others, and it is only right for them to be punished more severely.
- D. The punishment must fit the crime. Lex talionis—law of retaliation.
- E. We must accept responsibility when we cause a personal injury (21:18-27).
- F. We must accept responsibility when we commit criminal negligence (21:28-36).

II. Restitution Is Required (22:1-15)

- A. 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- B. Restitution—making a person who has suffered loss whole again. It is compensating the victim of a crime.
- C. Outright Theft (22:1-4)
- D. Negligence that leads to the loss of property (22:5-6)
- E. Property given to someone for safekeeping (22:7-13)
- F. Borrowed property (22:14-15)
- G. These laws taught God’s people how to live in community.
- H. These laws protected life, of the vulnerable and thieves.
- I. These laws offered equal protection under the law.
- J. These laws required restitution when people were negligent.
- K. It is our responsibility to repair whatever damage we do, whether we meant to do it or not.

Conclusion

- A. Big Idea: We are to glorify God in our everyday lives by the way we honor him and treat others.
- B. Big Question: How do property laws help us understand the gospel?
- C. The story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)
- D. The Gospel Definition