

**A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study**  
**Date: November 6, 2022**  
**Exodus 22:16-23:19**

1. What did we talk about in the last week's studies?
  - a. It seems like we got really caught up in the law. I thought we were free and no longer bound by the law. Why are we even talking about this.
  - b. Man, that was a lot of if...then statements. Couldn't we have figured these things out on our own? Did we really need all of this explanation?
  - c. I have a strange feeling that, whatever it was, we aren't done with it.
  
2. What are the instructions in 22:16-20 telling us?
  - a. Well, mostly we seem to be getting the "sentencing guidelines" for some of the "Thou shalt nots" of the commandments.
  - b. It seems like we are realizing the weight of these sins through God's eyes.
  
3. What do we learn in verses 22:21-24?
  - a. God cares about those who are oppressed.
  - b. Israel should be glad God cares for those who are oppressed because that is the situation they were in when he intervened.
  - c. They should be able to have grace for the oppressed because they have lived in those shoes.
  
4. What about verses 22:25-26? \_\_\_\_\_  
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5. What does God instruct in verses 22:29-31?
  - a. Don't hold back offerings from God.
  - b. Give God the firstborn of your sons and your animals.
  - c. God wants his people set apart for his purpose. In many cases, in the Old Testament, there was a physical purity that came with that. In the end, however, this was more symbolic of the completeness of our devotion to God. He is to have our best.
  - d. God reminds his people of His provision in their lives. Their acts of worship, offerings and consecration, are responses to God's incredible grace.
  
6. How do 23:1-9 relate to the previous laws?
  - a. God is a just God and we should work toward justice and never intentionally "pervert" justice.
  - b. In addition to promoting justice, we should not ignore someone who we could help. That would be selfish and would passively hurt someone else.
  - c. God's laws relate to two things. First, how we relate to God and what place he has in our lives. Second (like it), how that relation to God effects how we treat others. All the law and the prophets are summed up in these (Matthew 22:34-40).
  
7. Do we really need to remember all of these laws since we are now under grace?
  - a. No, we can really just do what we want so I don't know why we spent 2 weeks looking at these.
  - b. Not the least stroke of a pen will disappear from the Law... (Matthew 5:18).
  - c. Jesus came to fulfill the law (Matthew 5:17). The truth is, if we love God and love others, most of these should be obvious and natural outflows of that love. If there is every a time when you don't realize something that you are doing (or not doing) is failing to show love, these can be helpful to teach us what love looks like.
  
8. How are you doing at loving God and your neighbor? \_\_\_\_\_