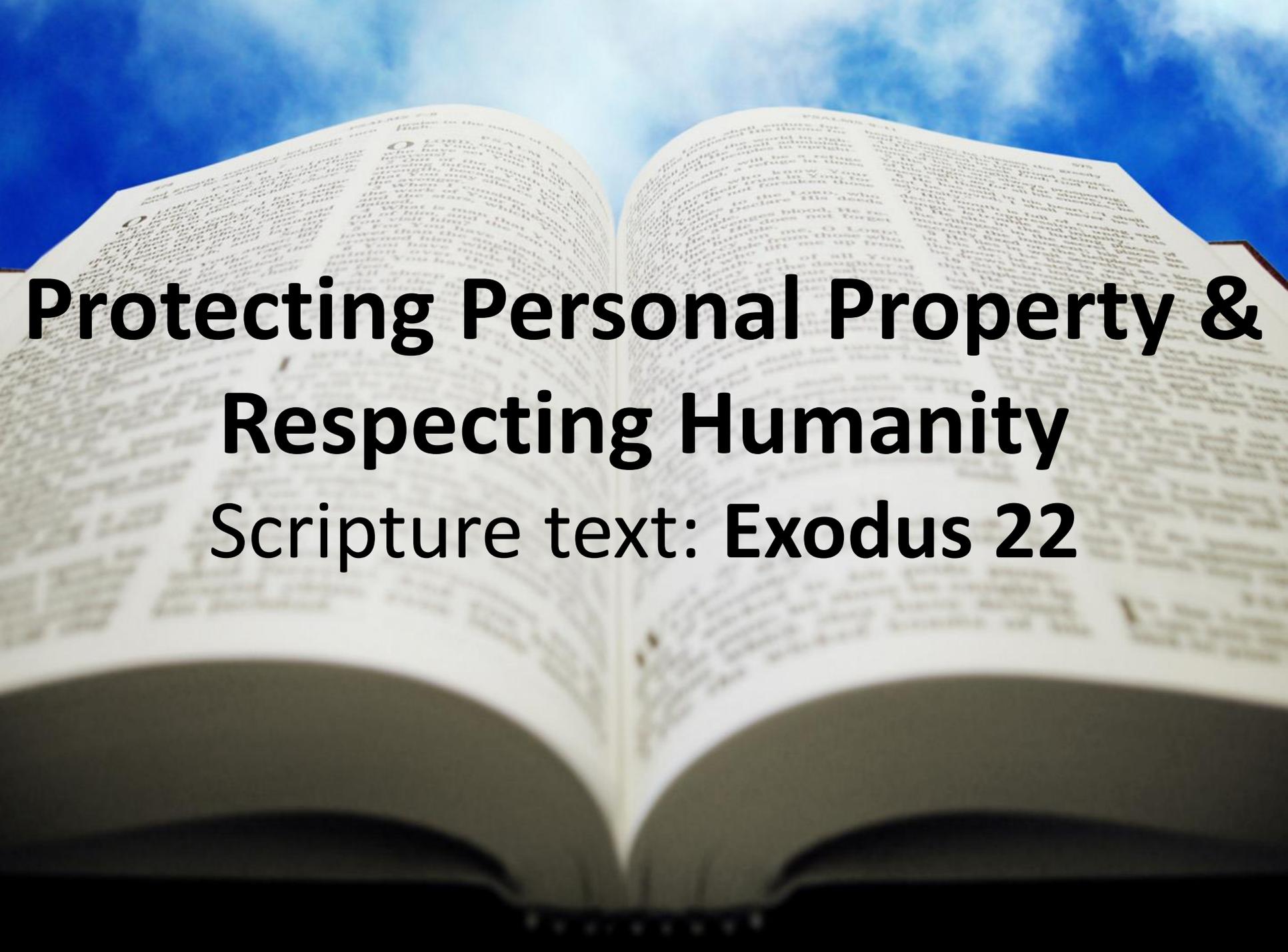


Welcome to Promise Land Bible Church
We're glad you're here!





**Protecting Personal Property &
Respecting Humanity**
Scripture text: **Exodus 22**

Here Moses dealt with several kinds of thievery, and he stated once again that the thief must make compensation to those who are wronged.

But note that God holds sacred even the life of a thief who is breaking into a house! **If he breaks in at night and is slain, the slayer is not charged.** But if his crime is in the daytime, when the owner could call for help or even recognize the intruder and accuse him later, then the slayer is guilty of homicide.

Exodus 22:1-3 "If a man steals an ox or a sheep, and kills it or sells it, he shall repay five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep. **If a thief is found breaking in and is struck so that he dies, there shall be no bloodguilt for him, but if the sun has risen on him, there shall be bloodguilt for him**. He shall surely pay. **If he has nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft.**

Proverb 6:30-31 People do not despise a thief if he steals to satisfy his appetite when he is hungry, **but if he is caught, he will pay sevenfold; he will give all the goods of his house.**

Luke 19:5-10 And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried and came down and received him joyfully. And when they saw it, they all grumbled, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "**Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.**"

Matthew 24:42-46 Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But **know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into.** Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. "**Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his master has set over his household, to give them their food at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes.**

Matthew 6:16-21 "And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, **they have received their reward**. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. **And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.** "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**

1 Thessalonians 5:1-5 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness.

Exodus 22:2-3 If a thief is found breaking in and is struck so that he dies, there shall be no bloodguilt for him, but if the sun has risen on him, there shall be bloodguilt for him. He shall surely pay. If he has nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft.

If he breaks in at night and is slain, the slayer is not charged. But if his crime is in the daytime, when the owner could call for help or even recognize the intruder and accuse him later, then **the slayer is guilty of homicide.**

If a thief, in breaking into a dwelling in the night, was slain, the person who slew him did not incur the guilt of blood; but **if the same occurred in daylight**, the slayer **was guilty** in accordance with Exo_21:12.

The distinction may have been based on the fact that in the light of day there was a fair chance of identifying and apprehending the thief.

Exodus 21:12 "Whoever strikes a man so that he dies shall be put to death.

Exodus 22:4 If the stolen beast is found alive in his possession, whether it is an ox or a donkey or a sheep, he shall pay double.

Isaiah 40:2 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

Jeremiah 16:18 But first I will doubly repay their iniquity and their sin, because they have polluted my land with the carcasses of their detestable idols, and **have filled my inheritance with their abominations."**

Revelation 18:2-6 And he called out with a mighty voice, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! She has become a dwelling place for demons, a haunt for every unclean spirit, a haunt for every unclean bird, a haunt for every unclean and detestable beast. For all nations have drunk the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have grown rich from the power of her luxurious living." Then I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you take part in her sins, lest you share in her plagues; for her sins are heaped high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities. Pay her back as she herself has paid back others, and **repay her double for her deeds; mix a double portion** for her in the cup she mixed."

Exodus 22:5 "If a man causes a field or vineyard to be grazed over, or lets his beast loose and it feeds in another man's field, he shall make restitution from the best in his own field and in his own vineyard.

Job 20:18 He will give back the fruit of his toil and will not swallow it down; from **the profit of his trading he will get no enjoyment.**

Exodus 22:6 "If fire breaks out and catches in thorns so that the stacked grain or the standing grain or the field is consumed, **he who started the fire shall make full restitution.**

Mr. Harmer observes, that it is a common custom in the East to set the dry herbage on fire; which fires, from want of care, often produce great damage. Hence **a law to guard against such evils was highly expedient.**

2 Samuel 14:27-31 There were born to Absalom three sons, and one daughter whose name was Tamar. She was a beautiful woman. So Absalom lived two full years in Jerusalem, without coming into the king's presence. Then Absalom sent for Joab, to send him to the king, but Joab would not come to him. And he sent a second time, but Joab would not come. Then he said to his servants, "See, Joab's field is next to mine, and he has barley there; go and **set it on fire.**" So Absalom's servants set the field on fire. Then Joab arose and went to Absalom at his house and said to him, "**Why have your servants set my field on fire?**"

Judges 15:2-5 And her father said, "I really thought that you utterly hated her, so I gave her to your companion. Is not her younger sister more beautiful than she? Please take her instead." And Samson said to them, "This time I shall be innocent in regard to the Philistines, when I do them harm." So Samson went and caught 300 foxes and took torches. And he turned them tail to tail and put a torch between each pair of tails. And when **he had set fire to the torches, he let the foxes go into the standing grain of the Philistines and set fire to the stacked grain and the standing grain, as well as the olive orchards.**

Exodus 22:7-8 "If a man gives to his neighbor money or goods to keep safe, and it is stolen from the man's house, then, if the thief is found, he shall pay double. If the thief is not found, the owner of the house shall come near to God to show whether or not he has put his hand to his neighbor's property.

Jeremiah 2:26 "As a thief is shamed when caught, so the house of Israel shall be shamed: they, their kings, their officials, their priests, and their prophets,

John 12:3-8 Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it. Jesus said, "**Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of my burial. For the poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me.**"

1 Corinthians 6:7-11 To have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for you. Why not rather suffer wrong? Why not rather be defrauded? But you yourselves wrong and defraud--even your own brothers! Or **do you not know** that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? **Do not be deceived:** neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And **such were some of you.** But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Exodus 22:9 For every breach of trust, whether it is for an ox, for a donkey, for a sheep, for a cloak, or for any kind of lost thing, of which one says, 'This is it,' the case of both parties shall come before God. The one whom God condemns shall pay double to his neighbor.

1 Kings 8:31 "If a man sins against his neighbor and is made to take an oath and comes and swears his oath before your altar in this house,

Luke 17:1-4 And he said to his disciples,
"Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe
to the one through whom they come! It would
be better for him if a millstone were hung
around his neck and he were cast into the sea
than that he should cause one of these little
ones to sin. **Pay attention to yourselves!** If your
brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents,
forgive him, and if he sins against you seven
times in the day, and turns to you seven times,
saying, '**I repent,**' **you must forgive him.**"

Deuteronomy 16:17-20 Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you. **"You shall appoint judges and officers in all your towns that the LORD your God is giving you,** according to your tribes, and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment. You shall not pervert justice. You shall not show partiality, and you shall not accept a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and subverts the cause of the righteous. **Justice, and only justice, you shall follow, that you may live and inherit the land that the LORD your God is giving you.**

Exodus 22:10-11 "If a man gives to his neighbor a donkey or an ox or a sheep or any beast **to keep safe**, and it dies or is injured or is driven away, without anyone seeing it, an oath by the LORD shall be between them both to see whether or not he has put his hand to his neighbor's property. **The owner shall accept the oath, and he shall not make restitution.**

Luke 12:47-48 And that servant who knew his master's will but did not get ready or act according to his will, **will receive a severe beating.** But the one who did not know, and did what deserved a beating, will receive a light beating. **Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more.**

Luke 16:9-13 And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings. **"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And **if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own?** No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. **You cannot serve God and money."****

Proverb 30:7-10 Two things I ask of you; deny them not to me before I die: Remove far from me falsehood and lying; give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is needful for me, lest I be full and deny you and say, "Who is the LORD?" or lest I be poor and steal and profane the name of my God. **Do not slander a servant to his master, lest he curse you, and you be held guilty.**

Hebrews 6:16 For people swear by something greater than themselves, and **in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation.**

Exodus 22:14-15 "If a man borrows anything of his neighbor, and it is injured or dies, **the owner not being with it, he shall make full restitution.** If the owner was with it, he shall not make restitution; **if it was hired, it came for its hiring fee.**

Psalm 37:21 The wicked borrows but does not pay back, but the righteous is generous and gives;

Zechariah 8:9-11 Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Let your hands be strong, you who in these days have been hearing these words from the mouth of the prophets who were present on the day that the foundation of the house of the LORD of hosts was laid, that the temple might be built. **For before those days there was no wage for man or any wage for beast, neither was there any safety from the foe for him who went out or came in,** for I set every man against his neighbor. But **now I will not deal with the remnant of this people as in the former days,** declares the LORD of hosts.