Lesson 18

3/10/19

Business & Social Interactions

The goal for this lesson is to explain the laws that outlined business & social interactions in the law of Moses.

This lesson will focus on three main areas: dishonesty (question 1 & 2), mistreatment of the less fortunate (question 3, 4 & 5) & making restitution (question 6).

1) What dishonest practice is condemned in Deuteronomy 19:14 & 27:17? In Job 24:2 this practice is listed alongside theft. Explain how one would lead to the other.

2) Consider the law regarding weights & measures given in Deuteronomy 25:13-16 & Leviticus 19:35-36. What are some examples today that demonstrate a violation of this law? Try to list at least an example you have seen in others & an example where you personally may be tempted.

3) Explain the laws regarding interest on loans. Deuteronomy 23:19-20; Leviticus 25:35-38; Exodus 22:25

4) Consider Deuteronomy 24:6, 10-13, 17-18. What is a pledge? What are some ways that it could be used to mistreat someone?

5) Consider Leviticus 19:13 & Deuteronomy 24:14-15. The law demanded that hired workers be paid before sunset every day. What is the reason given for this law & how does it apply to us today? James 5:1-6

6) The following verses describe situations where specific restitution was to be made. Based on the details of the situation, the restitution depended on the following…

-Was the damage intentional or accidental?

-Did someone know that the accident could happen, but fail to take precautions to prevent it?

-When the situation is brought before God, which party did He directly condemn?

Exodus 21:28-32, an ox gores a person to death

Exodus 21:33-34, an animal falls into another person’s pit & dies

Exodus 21:35-36, an ox gores another person’s ox to death

Exodus 22:5, an animal gets loose & feeds in someone’s field

Exodus 22:6, a fire damages another person’s property

Exodus 22:7-9, money or goods are given to someone for safekeeping & then lost

Exodus 22:10-13, an animal is given to someone for safekeeping & then lost

Deuteronomy 22:1-4, something that has been lost is found by another person

Here are some less-severe examples of similar situations that we could encounter today…

-You backed your car into a neighbor’s mailbox.

-You lost power tools that you borrowed from a friend.

-Your kids broke a piece of expensive artwork in a doctor’s waiting room.

-Your tree fell on your neighbor’s fence.

Assume that you find yourself in one of these situations. Thought Questions:

How should you decide if restitution should be made?

How should you decide what restitution should be made?

What principles should we follow in these situations?

How much should we rely on government law & insurance companies to determine our duty?

Consider the following verses. Luke 19:8; John 18:36; Matthew 5:23-24; Romans 12:17-21