

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Date: October 30, 2022
Exodus 20:22-22:15

1. What did we talk about in the last couple of studies?
 - a. God spoke with Moses in front of the people, so that the people would trust Moses.
 - b. God called Israel into covenant relationship with him...to be his treasured possession, a holy nation, a kingdom of priests...to obey him fully.
 - c. God gave his people the ten commandments.

2. What does God say to Moses in 20:22-26?
 - a. Tell the Israelites this: You have seen for yourselves that I have spoken to you from heaven....”
 - b. Do not make any gods to be alongside me.
 - c. He gave Moses instructions about the altar to be used in worshipping God.
 - d. This is the beginning of the explanation of the brief commands given in the last text.

3. What is happening in chapter 21, according to verse 1? _____
What does God tell his people in 21:2-4? _____
Why is this important? _____
Why is the provision set forth in verses 21:5-6? _____

4. What do we do with verses 21:7-11?
 - a. I think we can all agree that this needs to be taken out of the Bible. It’s reprehensible.
 - b. We must remember that we live in a different culture and time. Although we would not approve of a practice like this today, there are some valuable concepts here that we can learn from.
 - c. While we tend to focus on what God seems to allow and not command against, we should point out the provision God is providing within the existing cultural practice. God did not allow for a woman to be disgraced or starved. Although the fact that the practice existed at all is hard for us to fathom, God intended this law to try to protect these young women.

5. What concept is introduced in verses 21:12-14 and carries on through the rest of this passage?
 - a. While “Thou shall not murder” might seem pretty cut and dried, there are obviously “what ifs” that are not covered in such a simple command. God seems to be using this passage to separate out the intricacies that might happen...the grey areas.
 - b. It does seem to matter to God what the intention of the person was.
 - c. Verse 13 references cities of refuge, which are described more in Numbers. These were places where a person could go and be safe from the “avenger of blood” or the person in the victim’s family who had the right to exact blood for blood.
 - d. It seems that there was still a consequence for causing death unintentionally, but it was not as extreme as the consequence of doing so intentionally.

6. What do we learn in 21:28-32?
 - a. A man is not necessarily responsible if his animal hurts another person unexpectedly.
 - b. If the animal has a habit of doing this sort of thing, but the owner has not done anything about it then the owner is responsible...this teaches personal responsibility.
 - c. The same principle applies in verses 21:33-34 to someone who irresponsibly digs a hole that animals could fall into.

7. What principle do we learn in 22:7-15? _____

8. Do these concepts still apply to us? Yes _____ No _____ Explain. _____
