

Fairness in Israel
Deuteronomy 25:5-19

Guide for Small Groups

Review Matthew 5:17-20. Discuss what Jesus says about the law and what role the law plays in the church today.

1. Pro-_____ People of God (v. 5-12)
 - a. The case invoking “_____” marriage
 - i. _____ practice written into case law
 - ii. Only to be done in _____ circumstance
 - iii. For the extension of the dead man’s _____
 - iv. Right of _____ is available
 - v. Refusal brings public _____ without penalty
 - vi. Irony of the “_____” of the brothers
 - b. The case invoking a _____ mutilation
 - i. Seemingly noble _____ of a husband
 - ii. Endangered _____ and community
2. Pro-_____ People of God (v. 13-16)
 - a. Forbidden to have two “_____”
 - i. The old “_____” and “_____” bag trick
 - ii. The temptation to have two _____
 - b. Mandated to have one “_____” & measure
 - i. _____ standard
 - ii. _____ standard
 - c. Impact is upon “the _____”
 - i. Promise of _____ days for obedience
 - ii. Considered “_____” for such wrongs
3. Pro-_____ People of God (v. 17-19)
 - a. _____ what Amalek did
 - i. _____ of their march on Israel
 - ii. _____ of their attack
 - b. Wipe out the _____ of Amalek under heaven
 - i. When you have rest from your _____
 - ii. Without _____

1. So-called “Levirate Marriage” existed long before Moses and Deuteronomy (for example; Genesis 38:1-11). Dt 25:5-10 is the only law on this subject and it is case law (“This is gonna happen; this is the law in this circumstance.”)
 - a. What specific circumstances are in view?
 - b. What is the given reason for levirate marriage?
 - c. Why give a law with no legal penalty?
 - d. What reason might a man have for refusing this duty and going through the whole shaming process?

Read Mat. 22:23-32. How did the Sadducees twist this law? Read 1 Timothy 5:8. How might this expose the general equity (principles) behind the law of Levirate Marriage?
 2. Another case law, verses 11-12, is rather shocking. While the actions of the woman in this case seem noble, in what two ways does potential injury threaten the man? (Hint: Genesis 1:26 and Deuteronomy 23:1)
- In light of these two laws, discuss how important the creation mandate of Genesis 1:26 is and how today’s current reluctance of young couples to have children may be a serious matter.
3. Read Leviticus 19:35-47, Amos 8:4-6, and Micah 6:10-12.
 - a. How bad is cheating with false scales or measures?
 - b. Read Colossians 3:22-24. How might a worker on an hourly wage “cheat” in a way that would be contrary to the heart of Deuteronomy 25:13-16?
 4. Amalek was the grandson of Esau. Read Exodus 17:8-16. Deuteronomy reveals more information about how Amalek treated Israel than was in Exodus. The “tail” in verse 18 consisted of “stragglers” – those too weak or unable to march with the main body. So who did Amalek preyed upon? How does God’s vow in Exodus 17:16 demonstrate the character of God? Skim 1 Samuel 15. How did that generation deal (or fail to deal) with Amalek? What effect did it have on Saul? Read Esther 3:1. Haman was of what ethnicity as an “Agagite?” Yes, another generational issue! How does failing to obey God affect future generations?