

3ABN SABBATH SCHOOL PANEL
009 - LESSON – Sunday – August 24, 2025

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THE QUARTERS LESSON: EXODUS

THIS WEEKS LESSON: LIVING THE LAW

MEMORY TEXT: Exodus 20:22-23 (NKJV) “(22) Then the LORD said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: ‘You have seen that I have talked with you from heaven. (23) You shall not make anything to be with Me—gods of silver or gods of gold you shall not make for yourselves.”

God desired His people to be different from the surrounding nations. He wanted them established as a devoted community of faith who would live under His leadership and authority. Everyone would be subject to His law. Judges were to be appointed as administrators of the law, and the priests were to teach it. Parents also played a crucial role.

In any culture, the laws reveal the ideals, goals, intent, and character of the lawmaker. For example, when Pharaoh ordered every Hebrew male baby killed, this law revealed what he was like: evil. In contrast, if a king made a law that every 18 year old in the kingdom would be awarded a free higher education, many would consider this evidence of the king’s generosity and desire for his country to prosper.

God’s law reveals Him, that is, His goodness, love, values, righteousness, and His restraints against evil. As the law is holy and just, so is God. While creating space for an abundant life, the law also helps protect us from dangers and calamities. Respect for God, for each other, and for life’s values were the basis of His legislative system.

1 Corinthians 1:30 (NKJV) “But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption—”
Philippians 2:13 (NKJV) “for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.”

THE CODE OF THE COVENANT

At Sinai, with the giving of His law, **God set the foundation for teaching His people how, through connection with Him, they could live holy lives.** But the principles of the law needed to be applied in everyday life, so God gave them additional laws, the so-called **“Code of the Covenant.”** It was the responsibility of judges to watch over these laws and to apply them correctly.

Exodus 11:1-10 (NKJV) “(1) And the LORD said to Moses, “I will bring one more plague on Pharaoh and on Egypt. Afterward he will let you go from here. When he lets you go, he will surely drive you out of here altogether. (2) Speak now in the hearing of the people, and let every man ask from his neighbor and every woman from her neighbor, articles of silver and articles of gold.” (3) And the LORD gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians. Moreover the man Moses was very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh’s servants and in the sight of the people. (4) Then Moses said, “Thus says the LORD: ‘About midnight I will go out into the midst of Egypt; (5) and all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to the firstborn of the female servant who is behind the handmill, and all the firstborn of the animals. (6) Then there shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as was not like it before, nor shall be like it again. (7) But against none of the children of Israel shall a dog move its tongue, against man or beast, that you may know that the LORD does make a difference between the Egyptians and Israel.’ (8) And all these your servants shall come down to me and bow down to me, saying, “Get out, and all the people who follow you!’ After that I will go out.” Then he went out from Pharaoh in great anger. (9) But the LORD said to Moses, “Pharaoh will not heed you, so that My wonders may be multiplied in the land of Egypt.” (10) So Moses and Aaron did all these wonders before Pharaoh; and the LORD hardened Pharaoh’s heart, and he did not let the children of Israel go out of his land.”

What warning did God give before executing judgment upon Egypt?

1. For three days God sent a precursor warning by covering Egypt with darkness.
 - a. Exodus 10:23 (NKJV) “They did not see one another; nor did anyone rise from his place for three days. But all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings.”
 - i. God always send a warning before a judgment.
2. God plummeted the wealth of Egypt to cripple their disobedience against Him and compensate Israel for their years of labor.
 - a. Exodus 11:2-3 (NKJV) “(2) Speak now in the hearing of the people, and let every man ask from his neighbor and every woman from her neighbor, articles of silver and articles of gold.” (3) And the LORD gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians. Moreover the man Moses was very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh’s servants and in the sight of the people.”
3. The tenth Egyptian plague symbolized God’s complete wrath against Egypt. The purpose of it was to show a difference between those that serve Him and those that do not serve Him

- a. Exodus 11:7 (NKJV) “But against none of the children of Israel shall a dog move its tongue, against man or beast, that you may know that the LORD does make a difference between the Egyptians and Israel.”

- Also, the number ten is significant in biblical symbolism.
- Ten represents fullness or completeness.
- The Ten Commandments as a complete revelation of the divine moral law.
- The ten Egyptian plagues is God’s full expression of His justice and retribution.

God is the Judge, and He is against pride, injustice, discrimination, arrogance, exploitation, cruelty, and selfishness. He is on the side of the sufferers, the abused, the mistreated, and the persecuted. God will execute justice, which truly is another expression of His love.

1. Psalm 2:12 (NKJV) “Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, And you perish in the way, When His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.”
 - a. God honors those that trust Him explicitly.
2. Psalm 33:5 (NKJV) “He loves righteousness and justice; The earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.”
 - a. God displays His blessings on those that are allegiant to Him.
3. Psalm 85:11 (NKJV) “Truth shall spring out of the earth, And righteousness shall look down from heaven.”
 - a. There is no lack to those that are obedient to the Lord.
4. Psalm 89:14 (NKJV) “Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; Mercy and truth go before Your face.”
 - a. The blessings of God’s government will guide His children.
5. Psalm 101:1 (NKJV) “I will sing of mercy and justice; To You, O LORD, I will sing praises.”
 - a. We must show our gratitude to God with praise from our hearts.
6. Isaiah 16:6 (NKJV) “We have heard of the pride of Moab— He is very proud— Of his haughtiness and his pride and his wrath; But his lies shall not be so.”
 - a. God will abase those that resist Him in pride and arrogance.
7. Jeremiah 9:24 (NKJV) “But let him who glories glory in this, That he understands and knows Me, That I am the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight,” says the LORD.”
 - a. When we delight in the Lord, He delights in us.

Lessons:

When we can’t get the perfect balance (which we can’t), is it better to err on the side of mercy instead of justice?

Micah 6:8 (NKJV) “He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?”

