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Evening Service
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Teaching Elder

The 8th Commandment and Restitution

Restitution is an important extension of the 8th commandment. The act of not making whole any damages or loss inflicted on another is the same as stealing from them. The concept is a simple one, yet look at the complex solution offered by our contemporary legal system as it rushes in to fill the void left by the removal of the Law of God.

Consider the cost of our ungodly government and how this burden effects all of us daily. We cannot prosper apart from God's Law. God's Law inspires a spirit of support and kindness towards our brother, true contrition for our mistakes. Man's Law lives for the moment, and turns everyone into adversaries. Which way seems more efficient?

The good news is, the Law is just as applicable to businesses and individuals as it is to nations. Even though our Nation hates the Law of God, you as a person can and will be blessed by following it in your daily practices.

Scripture References

Psalms 15:1-5 A Psalm of David. O LORD, who may abide in Your tent? Who may dwell on Your holy hill? (2) He who walks with integrity, and works righteousness, And speaks truth in his heart. (3) He does not slander with his tongue, Nor does evil to his neighbor, Nor takes up a reproach against his friend; (4) In whose eyes a reprobate is despised, But who honors those who fear the LORD; He swears to his own hurt and does not change; (5) He does not put out his money at interest, Nor does he take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things will never be shaken.

Zechariah 8:9-11 "Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'Let your hands be strong, you who are listening in these days to these words from the mouth of the prophets, *those* who *spoke* in the day that the foundation of the house of the LORD of hosts was laid, to the end that the temple might be built. (10) 'For before those days there was no wage for man or any wage for animal; and for him who went out or came in there was no peace because of his enemies, and I set all men one against another. (11) 'But now I will not treat the remnant of this people as in the former days,' declares the LORD of hosts.

Psalms 119:72 The law of Your mouth is better to me Than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

Romans 13:7-8 Render to all what is due them: tax to whom tax *is due*; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor. (8) Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled *the* law.

Leviticus 6:1-5 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, (2) "When a person sins and acts unfaithfully against the LORD, and deceives his companion in regard to a deposit or a security entrusted *to him*, or through robbery, or *if* he has extorted from his companion, (3) or has found what was lost and lied about it and sworn falsely, so that he sins in regard to any one of the things a man may do; (4) then it shall be, when he sins and becomes guilty, that he shall restore what he took by robbery or what he got by extortion, or the deposit which was entrusted to him or the lost thing which he found, (5) or anything about which he swore falsely; he shall make restitution for it in full and add to it one-fifth more. He shall give it to the one to whom it belongs on the day *he presents* his guilt offering.

We are glad you have chosen to listen to this sermon and pray that it gives you strength, the want for obedience, and a desire to have God's abundant Grace mortify sin in your life. If you have any questions or comments please email chuck ezell@yahoo.com.