The Law Applied (2)

Exodus 22:16-23:19

1. Read verses 16-31. These verses state social responsibility for the Israelites. What were God’s law on seduction (16-17), sorcery (18), bestiality (19), foreigner (21, 23:9), the vulnerable (22-28), and ruler of nation (28)? What can we learn about God’s character from these laws?
2. Read 23:1-9: Why did God prohibit slander, perjury, and bribe? (1-3,6-8) What was God’s law on neighborliness (4-5)? How can we practice justice and mercy to our adversary in balance as the people of God? (Mt 23:23, Ro 3:25-26)
3. Read 23:10-13. What was God’s law on idolatry (22:20, 23:13), blasphemy (22:28), and offering (22:29-30, 23:19)? Why did God command the Israelites to keep Sabbath laws on slaves and animals?
4. Read 23:14-19. What are the three annual festivals which the Israelites had to celebrate? Why is it important for them to keep these? How do all these laws support the Decalogue?