

Part 3 - More Judgments: Oppression (Foreigners, Widows, Orphans), Lending (Usury)

Exodus 22

21 Thou shalt neither vex a stranger, nor oppress him: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt.

The word ‘stranger’ here is #1616 and it means: *a guest*; by implication, a *foreigner*. It’s been translated in the KJV as - alien, sojourner, stranger. Today, we would call them non-citizens and much confusion has come from this verse as many people use it to try to legitimize *illegal* immigration. It has become ‘un-politically correct’ to call illegals... illegal. As crazy as that might sound, it’s nevertheless true and even so-called ‘Christians’ support *illegal* immigration (in their ignorance) all because this verse has been mis-quoted and twisted to say we should allow open borders. Thus, America (along with most every other Christian nation in the ‘West’) has literally been invaded by people from many nations (and religions) in the name of ‘diversity’, ‘multi-culturalism’ and to support supposed ‘refugees’ (How can immigration of only young men of fighting age be considered refugees? Where’s all the women and children?). But what it all boils down to is simply allowing your country to be taken over *from the inside out*. This is just one example (of many) as to why it’s important for Christians to actually read their Bible instead of just listen to what someone tells them about the Bible. *Even the Word of God can be weaponized and it is done so on a daily basis*. After all, Satan himself used Scripture to tempt Jesus Christ (Mth 4, Lk 4). Now, if Satan twisted (perverted) Scripture to try and deceive Jesus Christ (God in the flesh, John 1:1,14) into sinning... don’t you think the same will be done to you? Thus, it’s important for us to rightly divide God’s Word and *study it for ourselves* (2 Tim 2:14).

So, then, what does this verse actually say? It says we’re not to vex or oppress a ‘stranger. It does not say we are obliged to open our borders and allow anyone and everyone to come flooding into our nation. There was a good reason our nation set up legal boundaries for entering our nation and even though the immigration process needs some fixing, that does not give us reason to allow people to come in illegally. Those who support such a thing are either *extremely* naive (and ignorant) or are *trying to destroy our nation*. Neither one is good. So, this verse simply tells us that anyone who is foreigner (non-citizen) should not be vexed or oppress. To ‘vex’ means *to rage* or be *violent*: by implication, *to suppress*, or *to maltreat* (#3238). And to ‘oppress’ means *to press*, i.e. (figuratively) *to distress* (#3905). Essentially, those who are non-citizens are still supposed to be treated the same way God wants everyone else to be treated: according to His Law. He said **not** to hate others *in our heart* but to love them...

33 And if a stranger sojourn with thee in your land, ye shall not vex him.

34 But the stranger that dwelleth with you shall be unto you as one born among you, and thou shalt love him as thyself; for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.
Lev 19:33-34

Verse 34 above says the stranger should be ‘as one born among you’. Again, this has been twisted to justify illegal immigration. All it means is that we should not hate them in our heart or

seek to do them harm. But our government has a duty to keep our nation safe by *only* allowing *legal* immigration and deporting all non-citizens. If this seems ‘harsh’ to you then wake up. Look at how the ‘Christian’ nations are being destroyed. Christ told us to take the Gospel to the world (Mth 28:18-20), not to allow them to invade our nation and take us over from the inside out. Allowing illegals to stay in our country is not only detrimental to natural born citizens, but a slap in the face to everyone who has worked so hard to do it the right way. Uncontrolled immigration is destroying the Christian nations and it is a physical part of the spiritual war that seeks to tear down the once mighty Christian nations. Loving ‘strangers’ has nothing to do with breaking the Law. Quite the contrary, the only way we can truly ‘love’ these people, is by obeying God’s Law. Let’s remember that love does not mean we have to have a warm feeling (affection) in our heart for someone. What is love, *truly*?

9 For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

*10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore **love is the fulfilling of the law.***

Rom 13:9-10

*Love is simply defined as obeying God’s Word. And, as we’ve found out in this great book of Exodus, that can truly only be done from the heart (Rom 7:14). So, when we kick out anger, hatred, resentment and bitterness (etc.) you have for others (even illegal immigrants), and strive to treat them according to God’s Word, then you are truly loving them. Thus, it is important to also treat the ‘illegals’ according to God’s laws but again, this does not mean we must give them free hand outs or support illegal immigration in any way. We must live in reality and *the reality is that many illegals are controlled by cartels*: drug cartels, weapon cartels and human trafficking cartels. **Supporting illegal immigration thus supports the cartels who keep them in bondage.** There are better ways to help ‘poor’ people than to support those who keep them in bondage.*

Most people don’t understand what an impact they can truly have in life if they simply learn to clean up their own heart (carnal mind = emotions, intents) and mind (thought process) and truly obey God’s Word (this also means *you must study it for yourself* so you know what to obey). All too often people would rather listen to a Pastor tell them what to think than be directly accountable to the Word of God and the Holy Spirit. This is the main reason Christianity is no longer affective in the world. We’ve got thousands of self-professing Christians but the morals of the Christian countries (and the world) keep going down the drain, so something does not add up. The truth is that most people who claim to be Christian really *are not taking God’s Word into their thought process* and changing themselves to reflect the morals in the Bible. Instead, they cleave to the material things in life and relish in carnal ‘pleasures’ (also called ‘sin’ in the Bible). In other words, we have many people who enjoy ‘hearing’ the Word of God but they don’t like actually doing it because that takes a lot of work: it’s hard! (Ezek 18:1-20) But still, they like to hear God’s Word (just so long as you don’t teach the controversial subjects!). It’s like God told Ezekiel...

30 Also, thou son of man, the children of thy people still are talking against thee by the walls and in the doors of the houses, and speak one to another, every one to his brother, saying, Come, I pray you, and hear what is the word that cometh forth from the LORD.

31 And they come unto thee as the people cometh, and they sit before thee as my people, and they hear thy words, **but they will not do them: for with their mouth they shew much love, but their heart goeth after their covetousness.**

32 And, lo, thou art unto them as a very lovely song of one that hath a pleasant voice, and can play well on an instrument: for **they hear thy words, but they do them not.**

Ezek 33:30-32

People like to go to Church and ‘hear’ God’s Word but they don’t want to obey it *from the heart*. Their obedience is limited to what benefits them in the world. It’s like the parable of the sower explains...

20 But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it;

21 Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for **when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.** [offended means to trip up, entrap or entice to sin, #4624]

22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.

Matt 13:20-22

As it was in Ezekiel’s day, so it is today; there’s nothing new under the sun (Ecc 1:9). People like to ‘hear’ but they don’t want to actually ‘do’ God’s Word. They don’t like the persecution that comes from obeying God nor do they want to give up their love for worldly things. And that’s what’s wrong with the world today. God explained it well in another chapter of Ezekiel...

1 Then came certain of the elders of Israel unto me, and sat before me.

2 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

3 Son of man, **these men have set up their idols in their heart, and put the stumblingblock of their iniquity before their face: should I be inquired of at all by them?**

4 Therefore speak unto them, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Every man of the house of Israel that **setteth up his idols in his heart, and putteth the stumblingblock of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to the prophet; I the LORD will answer him that cometh according to the multitude of his idols;**

5 That I may take the house of Israel in their own heart, because **they are all estranged from me through their idols.**

6 Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Repent, **and turn yourselves from your idols; and turn away your faces from all your abominations.**

7 For every one of the house of Israel, or of the stranger that sojourneth in Israel, which separateth himself from me, and setteth up his idols in his heart, and putteth the stumblingblock

of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to a prophet to inquire of him concerning me; I the LORD will answer him by myself:

*8 And **I will set my face against that man**, and will make him a sign and a proverb, and I will cut him off from the midst of my people; and ye shall know that I am the LORD.*

9 And if the prophet be deceived when he hath spoken a thing, I the LORD have deceived that prophet, and I will stretch out my hand upon him, and will destroy him from the midst of my people Israel.

*10 And **they shall bear the punishment of their iniquity**: the punishment of the prophet shall be even as the punishment of him that seeketh unto him;*

11 That the house of Israel may go no more astray from me, neither be polluted any more with all their transgressions; but that they may be my people, and I may be their God, saith the Lord GOD.

Ezek 14:1-11

God makes it clear that if we set up idols in our heart (which we do when we don't keep it clean) then we'll fall to sin (sin will conceive in our heart when we don't kick out the sinful thoughts and desires). And if we don't repent from this, God will punish (chastise) us. That's why the world is in such a mess. We have tons of self-professing Christians who like to hear God's Word *but don't obey it from their heart*. So, God lets us 'enjoy' the fruit of our sinful hearts... only most are too foolish to understand why 'bad things' are happening to us.

[Note: It's not because we are not supporting 'Israel' (a common lie told). The country of Israel today is not governed by nor filled with the children of Abraham, Isaac or Jacob (or Christians!). There are a few true Israelites there (Jer 24) but not many and what is most important is that, *the country is not Christian*. Supporting a country whose religion literally hates Jesus Christ is not only satanic but also self-destructive, yet many so-called Pastors tell their congregations we need to support Israel. This is a bald face lie and twisted scriptures in the most disgusting way to get well intending (and ignorant) Christians to support Satan and his children.]

All too many Christians are just too materialistic. We get depressed because we can't go back to the 'good old days' where we had a fairly prosperous nation and the world was not ignited with fire. Well, sometimes it takes decades to see the negative fruits of our sins as a society and we are finally seeing it but don't understand why it's happening because we are ignorant (willingly) of God's Word which tells us why it's happening. He warned us in Lev 26 and Deut 28 what would happen when our country turns from obeying His Laws. Since the 1960's our nation has been doing just that. In the courts, in the schools, in the government, in the Churches and in the hearts of the people. For example, if you begin to teach children (brainwash actually) in Kindergarten that they are not naturally born either a male or female, and they can choose their gender... is it any wonder we have so many 'bisexual' and 'transgender' (i.e. very confused) young people now? When you stop teaching truth to your children, society will suffer even if the results are not seen in a day, month or a year. The fruit of our wicked works is catching up with us.

So then, even though the world is ‘going to hell’, we can make an impact simply by working to by spreading the Gospel wherever there’s an opportunity. But, in order to do this, we must first take dominion (control) over *our own body, soul and spirit* (including your carnal mind!). Next is to find your gift(s) and use them the best you can. We should also pray for our country and the world. And while it is good to have the love ‘feeling’ in your heart for God, your family and friends, it’s not necessary to ‘feel’ that way about everyone else. God simply expects us to kick out the sinful thoughts and feelings and treat them according to His Word. And this includes those who are ‘strangers’ or non-citizens. And even if people are here non legally, we still shouldn’t have hatred in our heart for them nor try to harm them. However, *we do have a right to self-protection* and these people should be held accountable to all the same laws the citizens in our country are, for it is also written...

15 Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment: thou shalt not respect the person of the poor; nor honour the person of the mighty: but in righteousness shalt thou judge thy neighbour.

16 Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people: neither shalt thou stand against the blood of thy neighbour: I am the LORD.

17 Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbour; and not suffer sin upon him.

18 Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD.

Lev 19:15-18

Someone being in our country illegally certainly does not give them a right to our social services nor does it mean they should be given handouts and it definitely does not mean they can break our laws without being punished (and deported). To love also our neighbor means we should not allow them to sin (vs 17). This means they must be forced to comply with all our laws, local and federal. And if they are here illegally, they should be deported or forced to legally be accepted through the process of legal immigration. If they don’t meet the requirements for legal immigration, then deport them. Trying to change this righteous law into an emotional trip of not wanting to split up families and so forth is simply *trying to pervert justice and judgment*. We cannot allow our country to be invaded or pretty soon we won’t have a country anymore (which we are dang close to) and all those ‘bleeding hearts’ who are truly ignorant of God’s Word and extremely naïve about the real world we live in will find out the hard way (along with the rest of us who knew better) that all those ‘illegals’ flooding our nation are not all ‘poor’ people who need help; many of them are young men of fighting age and *they are controlled by wicked cartels* who care *nothing* about the people they traffic. How long does it take to realize we are being invaded? Some might want free hand outs and a better place to live but *many* of them have been transported here by globalists who want to use them to overthrow the Christian nations from the inside out. Thus, America (or any of the Christian nations) won’t be good places for anyone to live much longer. You cannot flood any nation with people who are not law-abiding citizens and expect the country to remain strong (ask yourself why the Arab countries or China or Russia don’t allow ‘free’ immigration...?). *This is a large part of what is breaking down our Christian culture* and consequently is helping to set up the Christian nations to follow the antichrist (Satan)

when he comes to heal the deadly wound. Massive illegal immigration brings so many problems that the governments of the Western nations don't know how to handle nor will they be able to handle uprisings from these illegals (which we are beginning to see). And so, we see just another aspect of the 'mystery of iniquity' well at work as we see our once mighty Christian nations fall to Satan's evil agenda (2 Thess 2).

Truly loving other people (of any race) is *making them abide by God's Laws* because that gives them the best hope to learn how to obey God's law *from their heart* (i.e., the best hope to find salvation through Jesus Christ) and that includes the laws of immigration of our nation. It's not letting them flood into our nation unchecked or giving them free hand out's when they do; it's making them abide by our laws which were founded upon God's Laws. It's teaching them Christianity first and foremost through our actions. It's not supporting their laziness or anarchy. It is amazing how the same bleeding-heart Christians who (mis)quote this verse in the Old Testament to justify illegal immigrants will turn right around and then say Jesus Christ did away with the Law of the Old Testament. Oh, the hypocrisy! It's no wonder so many people are turned off by their form of 'Christianity'... all too many Christians are ignorant of the very Word of God they claim to believe in. Ignorance is not love nor is allowing people to destroy our once great Christian nations by twisting Scripture to satisfy their misguided (and undisciplined) emotions. *And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.* (Gal 5:24-25).

1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

Col 3:1-2

We should not allow our emotions to be used to control us and coerce us into supporting anything that goes against God's Law. For good reason we are told to *study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth and to shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness* (2 Tim 2:15-16). Ignorance is not bliss!

Exodus 22

22 Ye shall not afflict any widow, or fatherless child.

23 If thou afflict them in any wise, and they cry at all unto me, I will surely hear their cry;

24 And my wrath shall wax hot, and I will kill you with the sword; and your wives shall be widows, and your children fatherless.

The widow and fatherless are two of the most helpless and vulnerable kinds of people in society. Thus, this judgment is concerning those who are basically defenseless. Citizens and the government are supposed to protect and care for the vulnerable in society; they are not to use, abuse or harm them. Yet, this is what's done so often today and is a large reason satanic influences have worked so hard to separate the family. A single mother is much more likely to

depend on the government than a single father. After the father is taken away from the family, the mother and children can be easily oppressed by the government, corporations and even the crooked Church. Like it or not, that's the truth. Satan and his followers know it and use it to their advantage. But when God was setting up a kingdom that was to be righteous (Israel), He specifically forbid them from oppressing anyone, especially the most vulnerable in society. Moreover, God warns that He Himself will take vengeance upon those who harm the innocent and vulnerable in society. God's vengeance might not be the next day, week, month or even the next year but it will come and it will be harsh. When the government fails to enforce righteous judgment, God will make sure it is exacted but He will choose the way and the timing. He always keeps redemption of the souls of His children in mind. His Word has so much to say about those who are afflicted. Consider just a few places...

1 Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.

*2 **Yet they seek me daily, and delight to know my ways, as a nation that did righteousness, and forsook not the ordinance of their God: they ask of me the ordinances of justice; **they take delight in approaching to God.***** [we are truly such a hypocritical nation! – Isa 10:6]

*3 Wherefore have we fasted, say they, and thou seest not? wherefore have we afflicted our soul, and thou takest no knowledge? Behold, **in the day of your fast ye find pleasure, and exact all your labours.*** [the 'fasting' days (holidays) are not used to actually humble themselves to God but to do their own pleasure and get rich]

4 Behold, ye fast for strife and debate, and to smite with the fist of wickedness: ye shall not fast as ye do this day, to make your voice to be heard on high. [they might fast from food but not from sin]

5 Is it such a fast that I have chosen? a day for a man to afflict his soul? is it to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the LORD? [God wants us to 'afflict' our soul by humbling ourselves and repenting of our sins. He wants us to fast (cease) from our sins!]

*6 **Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?***

7 Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh? [God explains what 'doing right' is all about]

8 Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy rereward. [God will bless us if we truly fast the way He wants us to]

9 Then shalt thou call, and the LORD shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I am. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity; [God will only listen to our prayers if we stop sinning willfully; He does not want us to point the finger at others and tell them how sinful you think they are. He wants us to put away hypocrisy, see and acknowledge our own sins, repent for them and change our ways!]

10 And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday: [God expects us to help others, physically and spiritual]

11 And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not. [God promises to well provide for us physically and spiritually if we put away our hypocrisy and other sins and begin to obey Him from the heart]

Isa 58:1-11

God simply wants us to ‘fast’ from our wicked ways. And in order to do that, we must ‘fast’ from our wicked thoughts and desires because that’s what leads us to oppress others, especially those who have a hard time defending themselves (physically or spiritually).

1 God standeth in the congregation of the mighty; he judgeth among the gods.

2 How long will ye judge unjustly, and accept the persons of the wicked? Selah.

3 Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy.

4 Deliver the poor and needy: rid them out of the hand of the wicked.

5 They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course.

6 I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most High.

7 But ye shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes.

8 Arise, O God, judge the earth: for thou shalt inherit all nations.

Ps 82

Remember, the term ‘god’ is a generic term. It can refer to a ‘deity’ (i.e., the angels in heaven, fallen or good ones) but it also refers to ‘magistrates’ (#’s 430,433), as in those who rule (govern) on earth. This Psalm declares how God Almighty is the Supreme Judge (*he judgeth among the gods*) and it pleads with those in positions of power to defend the ‘poor and needy’ and the ‘fatherless’ because they don’t have the money or influence to be able to fight against the oppression. Many people today (regardless of age, gender, race or marital status) fall under this category as the Christian nations (who are filled with the descendants of ancient Israel) find themselves living in a society that has a ‘two-tiered’ justice system. This Psalm warns that even those who are ‘gods’ of this world (rulers of this world) are still going to be held accountable for their actions by God Almighty.

1 Cor 4:5 tells us that, when Jesus Christ returns, He will *both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.* So, no one’s sins will be hidden. We must remember this when we see injustice, oppression and evil in the world. God see’s all sin (Ps 11:4, Jer 17:9-10) and is ‘keeping books’ on it (Deut 32:31-35). There is no unrepentant sin that will go unpunished. God will free His children from Satan’s bondage, both spiritually and physically when Jesus Christ returns. And, even though we are now in physical bondage, the ‘good news’ is that, we can come out of the spiritual bondage through Jesus Christ (note that we must come out of the spiritual

bondage before true physical freedom can be experienced). This is why we study God's Word. Redemption, remember, is the theme of this great book of Exodus, which has been telling us how God (YHVH) redeemed His people out of bondage. It thus explains how He is redeeming (saving) all His children (of all races) from spiritual death (Heb 2:14) that comes from believing the lies of Satan (John 8:44) and rebelling against the Most High God (YHVH).

Exodus 22

25 If thou lend money to any of my people that is poor by thee, thou shalt not be to him as an usurer, neither shalt thou lay upon him usury.

As we learned previously, God expects us to take care of each other. It is not the government's job to take care of 'poor' people. We've seen how well this does not work out in our own society. The supposed 'poor' people just keep getting lazier, fatter and more hooked on drugs and entertainment. But, in a free society (and the only kind of society that is truly free is one that is made up mostly [the majority] of true Christians) people are supposed to take care of each other (Lev 25:36-37). Why? Because *we take care of each other a lot better than governmental bureaucrats*. People who are in Washington D.C. (or the governing body of whatever nation) are disconnected from normal people. They don't understand the problems of normal people and most of the time they don't care them or about truly fixing problems - only about lining their own pockets. This tendency is why God told the Levites to be scattered among the people. He didn't want His priesthood to be disassociated from the people because it was their job to teach the people and help govern them righteously. They were to truly be 'public servants', a term which is laughable today.

It is within these lines that we see why God said we should not lend to others and exact usury upon them. Only to 'strangers' (foreigners, non-citizens) was usury allowed to be exacted and the reason was that Israel was supposed to be a righteous nation and God wanted them to have the monetary advantage over foreigners in their country and over other countries. Never forget that the borrower always becomes slave to the creditor (Deut 23:19-20). That's why Satan's children (and his other followers) have worked to hard to gain control of the monetary system of nearly every country in the world: if you control the money source of a nation, you control the nation. From that, you can infiltrate and subvert (corrupt) every other aspect of society. This is how the Churches got to be so corrupt and how Bibles themselves have gotten corrupt. This is why it's good to stick with the King James Version (KJV). While it is not without flaws in its translation, those can be overcome by using the *Strong's Concordance* and learning of the *Figures of Speech* used in the Bible, which can be found both in Bullinger's book [<https://t.me/BestStudyBible/10>] and in the footnotes of the Companion Bible [Old Testament: <https://t.me/BestStudyBible/6>] [New Testament: <https://t.me/BestStudyBible/7>]. Newer and supposedly 'improved' versions, however, are based off of corrupted manuscripts and in some study Bibles (as such with the Scholfield 'Bible') were even created *by Satanists* and funded by people who are also Satanists (Rothschild's), with the purpose of getting Christianity to support modern day Zionism. Don't take my word for it, check it out yourself! As they so often say, *follow the money*.

So, because money can be, and is, used for evil (after all, 1 Tim 6:10 tells us that *the love of money is the root of all evil*), God warns us not to use it for evil. Israel was specifically forbidden to exact usury to their fellow citizens, no matter how rich or poor they were. And the government was also forbidden from exacting usury upon its citizens. Moreover, this also means that citizens and the government are not to take out usury from anyone else, least of all from other countries!

He that by usury and unjust gain increaseth his substance, he shall gather it for him that will pity the poor.

Prov 28:8

He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved.

Ps 15:5

So, lending to others who are truly in need is the right thing to do (if you've got the money to do so) but charging them usury is not right in God's eyes. The only exception to this rule would be if you had to take out a loan to help someone who couldn't get a loan and, in that case, charging them the same amount of interest would be fair. But be careful and use wisdom if taking out a loan and especially when lending to others who cannot get a loan; there might be a good reason they cannot get it (aside from being young and not having any collateral). However, as servants of Jesus Christ, we are not to depend on loans *as a lifestyle*. Sometimes it might be necessary in life (to get a car or a house) but it is wise to have a plan to pay off your loans and get out of debt as quickly as possible. Christians should not be servants to Satan's system and therefore living in debt should not be a way of life. As the Bible clearly points out...

*The rich ruleth over the poor; and **the borrower is servant to the lender.***

Prov 22:8

God wants those who follow Him (and His Son, Jesus Christ) to be free both physically and spiritually. Therefore, we should work to cast off the shackles of both physical bondage (monetary debt) and (more importantly) spiritual bondage (to sin) (Rom 6:16-23). Now, there is a parable in the New Testament that touches upon the subject of usury and actually implies that God's servants should use it. We find this parable in Mth 25 and it is concerning talents (money) that a *man travelling into a far country* gave to his servants. The parable is speaking of Jesus Christ and His servants. After He ascended to heaven, the Holy Spirit was given to those who repent and truly believe upon Him (Acts 2:33). And the Holy Spirit gives us gifts (1 Cor 12) as He sees fit. We are duty bound to use these gifts to help bring God's children back to Him (restore their faith and obedience to Him). What the parable in Mth 25 explains is that, only those who use their gifts (talents) will be given authority in the kingdom of God when Jesus returns. When chastising the lazy servant (who only had one gift he had to use; he didn't have that much responsibility and he still did not use it wisely), the man asked why his servant hadn't even *put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury*. This simply means that, the servant who only had one talent should have least invested (tithed) to

a ministry that actually teaches the Bible (and there are a few of them out there; not many but a few) so that He could have at least have helped in some way. But to do nothing with the talent God gives you is not only being lazy but also wicked, as Mth 25:26 points out. So, spiritually investing our time and efforts into learning of God's Word and sharing it is the only kind of 'usury' we are to participate in. After all, God likens the Word of God sprouting in a person's mind and heart to usury in Mark 4:20 when He says: *And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred.* Those in whom the Word of God truly takes root, will produce good fruit (Gal 5:22-23). Luke explains it another way...

But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience.

Luke 8:15

So, usury with Satan brings forth oppression, sickness, misery and eventually death while God's 'usury' brings forth abundance of life and peace. Which would you prefer?

11 For this commandment which I command thee this day, it is not hidden from thee, neither is it far off.

12 It is not in heaven, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?

13 Neither is it beyond the sea, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?

14 But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it.

15 See, I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil;

16 In that I command thee this day to love the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the LORD thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it.

17 But if thine heart turn away, so that thou wilt not hear, but shalt be drawn away, and worship other gods, and serve them;

18 I denounce unto you this day, that ye shall surely perish, and that ye shall not prolong your days upon the land, whither thou passest over Jordan to go to possess it.

*19 I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: **therefore choose life**, that both thou and thy seed may live:*

Deut 30:11-19

Exodus 22

26 If thou at all take thy neighbour's raiment to pledge, thou shalt deliver it unto him by that the sun goeth down:

27 For that is his covering only, it is his raiment for his skin: wherein shall he sleep? and it shall come to pass, when he crieth unto me, that I will hear; for I am gracious.

To understand this judgment, we must understand what a ‘raiment pledge’ was. Back in those days, poor people used their outer coats to cover up with at night. In fact, poor people (such as the homeless) still do this today. This judgment basically sets for the principles that we are not allowed to take the basic elements that are needed for life. Deut 24:6, 10-13, 17 gives additional stipulations to this judgment [study more with: https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Deuteronomy/85 and Part 2 https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Deuteronomy/91]. We might use the saying that God does not want us to ‘take the shirt off his back’ to get collateral for a loan. If someone truly fell on hard times (and isn’t just irresponsible or lazy) then we are lend to them without usury and do not worry about getting collateral (a pledge) for the loan. After all, in Israel, all loans (to Israelites) were to be ‘forgiven’ (wiped clean) every seven years anyhow...

- 1 At the end of every seven years thou shalt make a release.*
 - 2 And this is the manner of the release: Every creditor that lendeth ought unto his neighbour shall release it; he shall not exact it of his neighbour, or of his brother; because it is called the LORD's release.*
 - 3 Of a foreigner thou mayest exact it again: but that which is thine with thy brother thine hand shall release;*
 - 4 Save when there shall be no poor among you; for the LORD shall greatly bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance to possess it:*
 - 5 Only if thou carefully hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all these commandments which I command thee this day.*
 - 6 For the LORD thy God blesseth thee, as he promised thee: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, but thou shalt not borrow; and thou shalt reign over many nations, but they shall not reign over thee.*
 - 7 If there be among you a poor man of one of thy brethren within any of thy gates in thy land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not harden thine heart, nor shut thine hand from thy poor brother:*
 - 8 But thou shalt open thine hand wide unto him, and shalt surely lend him sufficient for his need, in that which he wanteth.*
 - 9 Beware that there be not a thought in thy wicked heart, saying, The seventh year, the year of release, is at hand; and thine eye be evil against thy poor brother, and thou givest him nought; and he cry unto the LORD against thee, and it be sin unto thee.*
 - 10 Thou shalt surely give him, and thine heart shall not be grieved when thou givest unto him: because that for this thing the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all thy works, and in all that thou putteth thine hand unto.*
 - 11 For the poor shall never cease out of the land: therefore I command thee, saying, Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy, in thy land.*
- Deut 15:1-11

Can you even imagine the immense prosperity that obeying God’s Laws would bring? Today people agree to loans for 30 years or better, which pretty much enslaves them for the rest of their life. And then, if you cannot pay your taxes, the government will steal your property from you. Our current system is so crooked and oppressive, why do we love to have it so? Because our

current monetary system allows us to buy things on credit, which means we can get more ‘things’ than we would be able to if using a just monetary system. But then, we are also in bondage and can easily lose those things too. There is no security with Satan’s system, even though that is what’s promised. And Satan’s system (which is well at work in the entire earth) will not only take the ‘shirt off your back’ (literally) but (what’s worse is) it will also try hard to take your very soul to eternal death. As Jesus told His disciples in Matt 10:16: *I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.* The commission has not been changed! This is why we should seek to help, not only physically (with discernment) but also *spiritually* cloth people (Matt 25:31-46)...

*I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of **salvation**, he hath covered me with the robe of **righteousness**, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.*

Isa 61:10

6 And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

*8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for **the fine linen is the righteousness of saints**.*

Rev 19:6-8

*Who can find a **virtuous** woman? for her price is far above rubies.*

Prov 31:10

*13 Happy is the man that findeth **wisdom**, and the man that getteth **understanding**.*

14 For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.

15 She is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her.

Prov 3:13-15

The bottom line is that, we shouldn’t use people for selfish gain: to fill our lusts, pride, selfishness, etc. We should love others by treating them according to God’s Word and not take their spiritual garments (spiritual characteristics such as righteousness, wisdom, etc.) from them. In fact, we have a duty to our Heavenly Father to help others put on these spiritual clothes! Spiritual clothing of righteousness, virtue, wisdom and understanding is far more precious and valuable than any earthly goods. These are the things we should strive to help cloth people with. [Learn more about spiritual **Nakedness**: <https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/1049>]. We’ll pick this up in Part 4...

AMEN.