

Deuteronomy 22:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

In like manner shalt thou do with his ass; and so shalt thou do with his raiment; and with all lost thing of thy brother's, which he hath lost, and thou hast found, shalt thou do likewise: thou mayest not hide thyself.

Analysis

In like manner shalt thou do with his ass; and so shalt thou do with his raiment; and with all lost thing of thy brother's, which he hath lost, and thou hast found, shalt thou do likewise: thou mayest not hide thyself. The expansion to all lost thing demonstrates the comprehensive scope of neighbor love. This is not limited to livestock but applies to any possession - animals, clothing, or any lost property.

The repetition thou mayest not hide thyself reinforces prohibition against willful blindness. God addresses the natural human tendency to avoid inconvenient obligations by pretending not to notice others' needs.

The inclusiveness all lost thing...which he hath lost, and thou hast found establishes the principle broadly rather than limiting it to specific examples. The law teaches a mindset of active care for neighbors' welfare across all situations.

This comprehensive neighbor-love anticipates Jesus' teaching in the Good Samaritan parable - genuine love crosses boundaries and categories, actively helping anyone in need rather than finding excuses for indifference.

Historical Context

This law created culture of mutual care and trust within Israel. People could lose items knowing that finders would preserve and restore them rather than claiming them as windfall.

Such laws distinguished Israel from surrounding cultures where finding lost property created ownership rights.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. What does the expansion to 'all lost thing' teach about the scope of neighbor love?
2. How does prohibition against hiding yourself address human tendency toward convenient indifference?
3. Why does God establish principles broadly rather than limiting them to specific cases?
4. How does this law anticipate Jesus' teaching in the Good Samaritan parable?
5. What culture of mutual care results when communities practice comprehensive neighbor love?

Interlinear Text

וְאֵךְ	תַּעֲשֵׂה	הַמְּעַשׂ	וְאֵךְ	לְחַמֵּר	וְאֵךְ	בְּמַדְנָה	וְאֵךְ	בְּמַדְנָה
In like manner	and so shalt thou do	with his ass	In like manner	with his ass	In like manner	with his ass	In like manner	with his ass
H3651	H6213	H2543	H3651	H6213	H3651	H6213	H3605	H6213
וְאֵךְ	תַּעֲשֵׂה	הַמְּעַשׂ	וְאֵךְ	לְשִׁמְלָתוֹ	וְאֵךְ	בְּמַדְנָה	וְאֵךְ	בְּמַדְנָה
and so shalt thou do	with his raiment	In like manner	and so shalt thou do	with his raiment	In like manner	with his raiment	and so shalt thou do	with his raiment
H6213	H8071	H3651	H6213	H8071	H3651	H6213	H3605	H6213
וְאֵךְ	תַּעֲשֵׂה	הַמְּעַשׂ	וְאֵךְ	תַּאֲבֵד	וְאֵךְ	מִתְּבָא	וְאֵךְ	מִתְּבָא
and with all lost thing	of thy brother's	H834	which he hath lost	H4480	H6	H4480	H6	H4480
H9	H251	H834	which he hath lost	H4480	H6	H4480	H6	H4480
וְאֵךְ	תַּעֲשֵׂה	הַמְּעַשׂ	וְאֵךְ	תַּוְكֵל	וְאֵךְ	לְהַתְעִלָּם:	וְאֵךְ	לְהַתְעִלָּם:
and thou hast found	H3808	likewise thou mayest	not hide	H3201	H5956	H5956	H5956	H5956
H4672	H3808	likewise thou mayest	not hide	H3201	H5956	H5956	H5956	H5956

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