

Exodus 22:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

If it be torn in pieces, then let him bring it for witness, and he shall not make good that which was torn.

Analysis

If it be torn in pieces, then let him bring it for witness, and he shall not make good that which was torn.

This ordinance reveals God's comprehensive justice—regulating economic transactions, property rights, and social relationships. The mishpatim create framework for covenant community to flourish. Each law applies broader principles: love God supremely, love neighbor practically. Modern believers aren't bound by ceremonial laws but should pursue their spirit—justice, mercy, and faithfulness (Matthew 23:23). God's character revealed in law guides Christian ethics.

Historical Context

These civil regulations distinguished Israel from surrounding nations, creating a society reflecting God's justice. The laws balance individual rights with community welfare, property rights with compassion for the poor.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does this law reveal God's character—His justice, mercy, or holiness?
2. What New Testament principles build upon or fulfill this Old Testament regulation?

Interlinear Text

אִם	יִטָּרֵךְ	יִטָּרֵךְ	יָבִיאוּ הוּא	עַד
H518	If it be torn in pieces	If it be torn in pieces	then let him bring	it for witness
	H2963	H2963	H935	H5707
הַטָּרֵךְ הַ	לֹא	יַשְׁלֵם:		
that which was torn	H3808	and he shall not make good		
H2966		H7999		

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