

- I. God's justice for them – and us
  - A. The law is *not* comprehensive
  - B. The impact of God's justice on a particular people and time
  
- II. Death penalty for wilful murder
  - A. Man is made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27; 5:3; 9:6)
  - B. One who kills accidentally must be protected
  - C. One who “lies in wait” for another must be put to death
  - D. Religion cannot protect a murderer (v. 14; 1 Kings 2:28-34)
  
- III. Negligence taken extremely seriously
  - A. Bulls, pits, fistfights, and beatings
  - B. The death penalty is appropriate when knowing negligence leads to death
  
- IV. The punishment must fit the crime
  - A. “Life for life, eye for eye ...” (23-25)
  - B. An alternative
  - C. Compensation for property damage
  
- V. Honor toward parents
  - A. Death penalty for *striking* parents
  - B. Death penalty for *cursing* (or *dishonoring*) parents
  - C. Both are harsher than in other cultures!
  
- VI. Equal protection for the vulnerable
  - A. Slaves
  - B. Unborn children (22-25)
  
- VII. Some applications ...
  - A. The big problem with lots of environmental degradation is what it does to man
  - B. The penitentiary system is ridiculous
  - C. Parents deserve tremendous honor among human relationships.
  - D. Protection of the most vulnerable is indispensable in a just society
  
- VIII. Jesus Christ died so that we can be justified
  - A. The law shows us justice
  - B. But the law cannot make us just before God
  - C. Christ died for the unjust and ungodly (Matthew 5:38-39; Romans 5:6-9; Colossians 3:3-4)