

IMPARTIAL ISRAEL

Exodus 23:1-9 // October 12, 2025 AM

In light of past salvation and future judgment, we must be free from sinful partiality.

I. Be impartial in *justice* (vv. 1-3, 6-9).

II. Be impartial in *mercy* (vv. 4-5).

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. What is partiality? How was it a problem in the ancient world? What does it look like in our own day?
2. Which of the ten commandments is particularly in focus as God calls for justice in lawsuits in vv. 1-3 and vv. 6-9?
3. How does partiality keep us from being guided by truth and truth alone?
4. What examples does God give of ways we can be swayed toward sinful partiality?
5. Why does God put laws about showing mercy to our enemies in the middle of laws about lawsuits?
6. What are the situations addressed in vv. 4-5, and what might they look like in our non-agrarian society today?
7. How can sinful people like us show impartiality in both justice and mercy? And why should we want to?

QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. How has my culture shaped me to be partial in judgment? Why is partiality so harmful?
2. How has digital technology made it incredibly easy to spread a false report? Am I taking heed to myself so that I don't fall prey to these violations of the ninth commandment?
3. Is there anyone in the church that I steer clear of as an enemy? What might it look like to show mercy to them, and how does the gospel liberate me to show such to them?