Justice and Compassion in Biblical Law (review)

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This book offers an incisive overview of biblical law, of a kind that extends the promise of its title and can serve as an introduction to the subject. Trained in the fields of biblical studies and of law, Hiers is able to offer a peephole to the way a lawyer reads the Bible and approaches the legal material it holds. The first insight is provided by the way Hiers chooses to organize the material: although well-aware of the composite nature of the Pentateuch, and the distinct layers that comprise the body of biblical law, Hiers does not follow a chronological—nor a narratological—outline for his discussion. Rather, the chapters are organized thematically.

The first part of the book deals with civil law, with chapter 1 focusing on
seeking to reframe their conceptualization of biblical law, with the aid of an experienced lawyer.

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