



Exodus

THE BOOK OF THE COVENANT: GIVEN AND RATIFIED **Exodus 21:12-23:19**

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Deliverance - Commission - Covenant

Exodus 1-19 tells the story of Israel's deliverance from Egypt and God's commissioning of His people. Exodus 20 marks the beginning of the Covenant God creates for Israel. The Covenant explanation will not conclude until Leviticus 27.

Laws of Israel

God is providing guidance for Israel both for their existence in the desert as well as preparing them for life in the Promised Land. The laws are paradigmatic in nature. They are intended to help the people of God know how to both engage in daily behaviors that distinguish them as well as how to observe the Sabbath and religious festivals.

Talion Law

This is the law of exact retaliation - "eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth" - was found in ancient societies. In pagan societies in the ancient world, people could "buy" their way out of the talion laws. God set forth a higher standard in the laws of Israel. The Talion Laws of Israel were not interpreted literally ---- rather, they required Israel to exact full and meaningful justice that fit the crime.

Injuries to People and Animals - Exodus 21:12-36

- The Death Penalty
- Provisions for Pregnant Women
- Provisions for Servants
- Injuries to Animals

Property Laws - Exodus 22:1-17

- Restitution vs. Residency
- Property Disputes
- Fathers and Daughters

Categorical Imperatives - Exodus 22:18-23:9

- This section signals a change in legal style. The commands are generally written in the second person and offer specific instructions.

Sabbaths and Religious Festivals

- Sabbath Laws
- Religious Festivals