

# Welcome to: - Bible House of Grace.



*God, through His Son Jesus, provides eternal grace for our failures and human limitations.*

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## Exodus 21.

(2014)

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The Bible not only reveals God's eternal plans purposes and promises

But also shows how you can know God for yourself.

***Teach it, don't demand it.***

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*Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man. As to such I neither claim special knowledge or perfect understanding.*

*If you think items presented on this site to be in error, please let me know and I will gladly reconsider the content.*

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## Exodus 21.

(A brief overview of the main topics).

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### Topics.

- Rules for male slaves.
- Rules for female slaves.
- Rules for masters taking extra wives.
- Rules for striking slaves.
- Rules for physical violence.
- Rules for an ox goring a slave.
- Crimes that bring the death penalty.
- Penalties for accidental death.
- Rules for animals.

**INTRODUCTION:** in the book of Exodus, God fulfilled His promise to Abraham by multiplying Abraham's descendants into a great nation delivering them from slavery in Egypt to journey to the Promised Land, and then binding them to Himself with a covenant at Mount Sinai. Moses, under the direct command of God and as leader of Israel, received the Ten Commandments from God, along with other laws governing Israel's life and worship. He also led the nation in building the Tabernacle, a place where God's presence can dwell among his people and where they can make sacrifices for sin.

Most Jews and Christians recognise Moses as the author, writing sometime after the Exodus from Egypt (about 1445 B.C.). Note: the promise God made to Abraham will be perfectly fulfilled when Christ returns in glory and all those (Jews and Gentiles) who belong to God's Kingdom are gathered to him. (See also the introduction to chapter one).

### NOTE.

For information of people, places and the meaning of words see Map Locations and People of the Bible, and Bible Dictionary on Website Menu.

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This chapter is all about civil rules God gave to the nation of Israel they are laws concerning social justice that the government of Israel was to implement within their society. These laws are not given to the secular world, but to the nation of Israel.

### Rules for Male Slaves.

- When Israel buys a Hebrew slave, he is to serve six years and in the seventh he is to go free, for nothing.
- If the slave is single when he is brought he shall go out single, but if he is married when he is brought, then his wife shall go out with him.
- If the slave's master gives the slave a wife and she bears the slave sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall be her master's and the slave is to go out alone, but if the slave says, "I will not go out free, I love my master, my wife, and my children," then his master shall bring him to God and to the doorpost and bore his ear through with an awl and he shall be his slave forever.

### **Rules for Female Slaves.**

- When a man sells his daughter as a slave, she shall not go out as the male slaves do, if she does not please her master who brought her and he has designated her for himself, then he shall let her be redeemed (brought back). Her master shall have no right to sell her to a foreign people, since he has broken faith with her, but if her master designates her for his son, her master shall deal with her as with a daughter.

### **Rules for Masters taking Extra Wives.**

- If the master of a female slave takes another wife to himself, he is not to diminish the food of his female slave, her clothing or the marital rights of his female slave, if her master does not do these three things for her, she shall go out for nothing, without payment of money.

### **Rules for Striking Slaves.**

- When a man strikes his slave, male or female, with a rod and the slave dies the slave is to be avenged.
- If the slave survives a day or two, he is not to be avenged, for the slave is his master's money. While the slave is sick he cannot work so the owner loses money anyway.

### **Rules for Physical Violence.**

- When a man strikes the eye of his slave, male or female, and destroys it, he shall let the slave go free because of his eye.
- If he knocks out the tooth of his slave, male or female, he shall let the slave go free because of his tooth.

### **Rules for an Ox Goring a Slave.**

- If an ox gores a slave, male or female, the owner shall give to their master thirty shekels of silver and the ox shall be stoned.

### **Crimes that Bring the Death Penalty.**

- Whoever strikes a man so that he dies shall be put to death,
- If a man wilfully attacks another to kill him by cunning he is to be taken from the LORD'S altar that he may die.
- Whoever strikes his father or his mother shall be put to death.
- Whoever steals a man and sells him and anyone found in possession of him, shall be put to death.
- Whoever curses his father or his mother shall be put to death.

### **Penalties for Accidental Death.**

- If a man's death was an accident then the slayer could flee to a place of refuge.
- When men quarrel and one strikes the other with a stone or with his fist and the man does not die he who struck him shall be cleared; but he shall pay for the loss of his time and shall have him thoroughly healed.
- When men strive together and hit a pregnant woman, so that her children come out, but there is no harm, the one who hit her is to be fined.
- When men strive together and hit a pregnant woman, and harm the child, they are to pay life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe.

### **Rules for Animals.**

- When an ox gores a man or a woman to death, the ox shall be stoned and its flesh shall not be eaten, but the owner of the ox shall not be liable.
- If the ox has been accustomed to gore in the past, and its owner has been warned but has not kept it in and it kills a man or a woman, the ox shall be stoned, and its owner shall be put to death or if a ransom is imposed on him, then he shall give for the redemption of his life whatever is imposed on him.
- If an ox gores a man's son or daughter, he shall be dealt with according to this same rule as above.
- If an ox gores a slave, male or female, the owner shall give to their master thirty shekels of silver and the ox shall be stoned.
- When a man digs a pit and does not cover it and an ox or a donkey falls into it, the owner of the pit shall make restoration, he shall give money to its owner and the dead beast shall be his.
- When one man's ox butts another's, so that it dies, then they shall sell the live ox and share its price. The dead beast also they shall share, but if it is known that the ox has been accustomed to gore in the past, and its owner has not kept it in, he shall repay ox for ox and the dead beast shall be his. (Exod. 21:1-36).

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End.