

Exodus 20-24

3 Sections:

Ex 20:22 – 23:19 Book of the Covenant
Ex 23:20 – 33 Conquest of Canaan Promised
Ex 24 Covenant Confirmed

God's Law divided into 3 types

Moral Law (10 Commandments)
Civil Law (Book of the Covenant)
Ceremonial Law

BOOK OF THE COVENANT (Ex 20:22 – 23:19)

Application of the Decalogue into the specific social context of Israel as a nation (civil law)

| EXODUS SCRIPTURE | TOPIC |
|--|--|
| 20:22 – 23:19 | Worship: idols & altars |
| SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY | |
| 21:1 – 11 | Slavery |
| 21:12 - 27 | Injuring other humans |
| 21:28 – 36 | Animals |
| 22:1-17 | Property |
| WORSHIP & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY | |
| 22:18 – 20 | Worship: sorceresses; bestiality; false sacrifices |
| 22:21 - 28 | Oppression & loans |
| 22:29 – 31 | Worship: offerings; firstborn; holiness |
| 23:1 – 9 | Testimony in court; enemies' animals; oppression |
| 23:10 – 19 | Worship: Sabbaths & festivals |

Laws About Altars

²² And the LORD said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the people of Israel: 'You have seen for yourselves that I have talked with you from heaven. ²³ You shall not make gods of silver to be with me, nor shall you make for yourselves gods of gold. ²⁴ An altar of earth you shall make for me and sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen. In every place where I cause my name to be remembered I will come to you and bless you. ²⁵ If you make me an altar of stone, you shall not build it of hewn stones, for if you wield your tool on it you profane it. ²⁶ And you shall not go up by steps to my altar, that your nakedness be not exposed on it.'

What were the 2 kinds of sacrifices God wanted done on this altar? (v24)

WHY are we studying this?

21 “Now these are the rules that you shall set before them. ²When you buy a Hebrew slave, he shall serve six years, and in the seventh he shall go out free, for nothing. ³If he comes in single, he shall go out single; if he comes in married, then his wife shall go out with him. ⁴If his master gives him a wife and she bears him sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall be her master's, and he shall go out alone. ⁵But if the slave plainly says, ‘I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free,’ ⁶then his master shall bring him to God, and he shall bring him to the door or the doorpost. And his master shall bore his ear through with an awl, and he shall be his slave forever.

⁷“When a man sells his daughter as a slave, she shall not go out as the male slaves do. ⁸If she does not please her master, who has designated her for himself, then he shall let her be redeemed. He shall have no right to sell her to a foreign people, since he has broken faith with her. ⁹If he designates her for his son, he shall deal with her as with a daughter. ¹⁰If he takes another wife to himself, he shall not diminish her food, her clothing, or her marital rights. ¹¹And if he does not do these three things for her, she shall go out for nothing, without payment of money.

| EXODUS SCRIPTURE | TOPIC | HIGHLIGHT VERSES |
|--|--|--|
| 20:22 – 23:19 | Worship: idols & altars | |
| SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY | | |
| 21:1 – 11 | Slavery | |
| 21:12 - 27 | Injuring other humans | ¹² “Whoever strikes a man so that he dies shall be put to death. |
| 21:28 – 36 | Animals | ³³ “When a man opens a pit, or when a man digs a pit and does not cover it, and an ox or a donkey falls into it, ³⁴ the owner of the pit shall make restoration. He shall give money to its owner, and the dead beast shall be his. |
| 22:1-17 | Property | ⁵ “If a man causes a field or vineyard to be grazed over, or lets his beast loose and it feeds in another man’s field, he shall make restitution from the best in his own field and in his own vineyard. |
| WORSHIP & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY | | |
| 22:18 – 20 | Worship: sorceresses; bestiality; false sacrifices | ¹⁸ “You shall not permit a sorceress to live. ¹⁹ “Whoever lies with an animal shall be put to death. ²⁰ “Whoever sacrifices to any god, other than the LORD alone, shall be devoted to destruction. |
| 22:21 - 28 | Oppression & loans | ²⁵ “If you lend money to any of my people with you who is poor, you shall not be like a moneylender to him, and you shall not exact interest from him. ²⁶ If ever you take your neighbor’s cloak in pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down, ²⁷ for that is his only covering, and it is his cloak for his body; in what else shall he sleep? And if he cries to me, I will hear, for I am compassionate. |
| 22:29 – 31 | Worship: offerings; firstborn; holiness | ²⁹ “You shall not delay to offer from the fullness of your harvest and from the outflow of your presses. |
| 23:1 – 9 | Testimony in court; enemies’ animals; oppression | ⁹ “You shall not oppress a sojourner. You know the heart of a sojourner, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt. |
| 23:10 – 19 | Worship: Sabbaths & festivals | ¹⁹ “The best of the firstfruits of your ground you shall bring into the house of the LORD your God. “You shall not boil a young goat in its mother’s milk. |

Ex 23: 20 – 33 Conquest of Canaan Promised

²⁰ “Behold, I send an angel before you to guard you on the way and to bring you to the place that I have prepared. ²¹ Pay careful attention to him and obey his voice; do not rebel against him, for he will not pardon your transgression, for my name is in him.

²² “But if you carefully obey his voice and do all that I say, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries.

²³ “When my angel goes before you and brings you to the Amorites and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Canaanites, the Hivites and the Jebusites, and I blot them out, ²⁴ you shall not bow down to their gods nor serve them, nor do as they do, but you shall utterly overthrow them and break their pillars in pieces. ²⁵ You shall serve the LORD your God, and he will bless your bread and your water, and I will take sickness away from among you. ²⁶ None shall miscarry or be barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days. ²⁷ I will send my terror before you and will throw into confusion all the people against whom you shall come, and I will make all your enemies turn their backs to you. ²⁸ And I will send hornets before you, which shall drive out the Hivites, the Canaanites, and the Hittites from before you. ²⁹ I will not drive them out from before you in one year, lest the land become desolate and the wild beasts multiply against you. ³⁰ Little by little I will drive them out from before you, until you have increased and possess the land. ³¹ And I will set your border from the Red Sea to the Sea of the Philistines, and from the wilderness to the Euphrates, for I will give the inhabitants of the land into your hand, and you shall drive them out before you. ³² You shall make no covenant with them and their gods. ³³ They shall not dwell in your land, lest they make you sin against me; for if you serve their gods, it will surely be a snare to you.”

What demands of obedience did God have for them?

What promises and assurances did God give His people?

3 principles we see in here:

24 Then he said to Moses, “Come up to the LORD, you and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, and worship from afar.² Moses alone shall come near to the LORD, but the others shall not come near, and the people shall not come up with him.”

³ Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the rules. And all the people answered with one voice and said, “All the words that the LORD has spoken we will do.” ⁴ And Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD. He rose early in the morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. ⁵ And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD. ⁶ And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. ⁷ Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, “All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient.” ⁸ And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, “Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words.”

Moses said:

“Behold the blood of the covenant...” Ex 24:8

Jesus said:

“for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.” Matt 26:28