EXODUS 23 vs 1



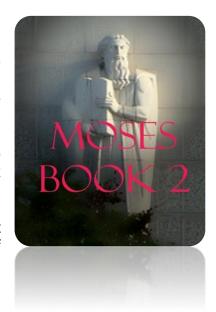
This chapter continues the acts first passed upon Mount Sinai in Arabia.

1. These laws of universal obligation, relate to the ninth commandment; against bearing false witness (1); and giving false judgment (2,3,6-8); also a law of doing good to our enemies (4-5); and not oppressing strangers (9).

2. Some laws peculiar to those ruled by God. The sabbatical year (10-11); the three annual feasts (14-17).

3. Promises regarding the mercy God began for them, on condition of their obedience, that God would lead them through the wilderness (20-21); He would prosper all they had (25-26); He would put them in possession of Canaan (27-31); but they must not mix with the nations (32-33) – Matthew Henry.

Other than the unique nation of the children of **Israel**, led by Moses, that exited Egypt in the Middle East 3,500 years ago, who received this body of law from the Lord; the only other country in the world... to be built on these laws as a foundation was **the United States of America**.



Laws concerning Civil and Religious obligations

- ¹ You will not circulate a false report: do not put your hand with the wrongdoer to be an unrighteous witness.
- ² You will not follow a crowd to do evil; nor will you testify in a cause to turn aside many to twist justice:
- ³ nor will you be partial to a poor man in his dispute.
- ⁴ If you meet the ox of your enemy or his ass going astray, you will surely return it to him.
- ⁵ If you see the ass of one who hates you lying under its burden, and you think to refrain helping, surely you must help him with it.
- ⁶ You will not twist and deny justice for the poor in his cause.
- ⁷ Keep far away from a false matter; and do not kill the innocent and righteous: because I will not justify the wrongdoer.
- ⁸ And you will take no bribe: for the bribe blinds the discerning, and perverts the words of the righteous.
- ⁹ And a stranger you will not oppress: for you know the heart of a stranger, because you were strangers in the land of Egypt.

Laws concerning Sabbaths and Feasts

EXODUS 23 vs 1

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¹⁰ And six years you will sow your land, and gather in its fruits:

¹¹ but the seventh year you will let it rest and lie fallow; that the poor of your people may eat: and what they leave the beasts of the field may eat. In like manner you will deal with your vineyard, and with your olive grove.

¹² Six days you will do your work, and on the seventh day you will rest: that your ox and your ass may rest, and the son of your maidservant, and the stranger, may be refreshed.



¹³ And in all things that I have said to you, be circumspect: and the name of other gods make no mention, nor let it be heard from your mouth.

¹⁴ Three times you will hold a festival to Me in the year.

15 You will keep the feast of unleavened bread: (you will eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded you, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it you departed from Egypt: and none will appear before Me empty-handed:)



¹⁶ And the feast of harvest, the firstfruits of your labors, which you have sown in the field:

and the feast of ingathering, which is in the end of the year, when you have gathered in your labors from the field.

¹⁷ Three times in the year all your males will appear before the Lord GOD.

¹⁸ You will **not** offer the **blood** of My sacrifice with leavened bread; nor will the fat of My sacrifice remain until the morning.

¹⁹ The first firstfruits of your land you will bring into the house of the LORD your God. You will not boil a young goat in the milk of its mother.



Laws concerning conquest

EXODUS 23 vs 1



- ²⁰ Behold, I send an Angel before you, to keep you in the way, and to bring you into the place which I have prepared.
- ²¹ Beware of Him, and obey His voice, do not provoke Him; for He will not pardon your transgressions: for My name is in Him.
- ²² But if indeed you will obey His voice, and do all that I speak; then I will be an enemy to your enemies, and an adversary to your adversaries.
- ²³ For My Angel will go before you, and bring you in to the Amorites, and the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites: and I will cut them off.
- ²⁴ You will not bow down to their gods, nor serve them, nor do according to their works: but you will utterly overthrow them, and completely break down their images.
- ²⁵ So you will serve the LORD your God, and He will bless your bread, and your water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of you.
- ²⁶ No one will miscarry, nor be barren, in your land: the number of your days I will fulfil.
- ²⁷ My fear I will sent before you, and cause confusion among all the people to whom you come to, and I will make all your enemies turn their backs to you.
- ²⁸ And I will send hornets before you, which will drive out the Hivite, the Canaanite, and the Hittite, from before you.
- 29 I will not drive them out from before you in one year; lest the land become desolate, and the beasts of the field be too numerous against you.
- 30 Little by little I will drive them out from before you, until you have increased, and inherit the land.
- ³¹ And I will set your boundaries from the Red Sea even to the sea of the Philistines, and from the desert to the river: for I will deliver the inhabitants of the land into your hand; and you will drive them out before you.
- ³² You will make no covenant with them, nor with their gods.
- ³³ They will 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.