

Exodus – The Revealing of God’s Glory and His Design for the Chosen

#71 – God’s Plan for Responsible
Independence – Slavery, Part A

Exodus 21:1-4

“Boredom seems to set in at this point, relieved only by the golden calf incident narrated in chapter 32.... The impression is given that the writer of Exodus has now inserted into a brilliant narrative a series of rules and regulations that are of interest only to historians.”

Exodus 21:1

“¹ Now **these are** the ordinances which you are to set before them.”

Exodus 24:4a

“^{4a} Moses wrote down all the words of the Lord.”

Three Classifications of Biblical Law

Moral Law – eternal

Note the three uses:

1. Civil peace
2. Awareness of sin
3. Normative for life in Christ.

Civil – for Israel

Ceremonial – prefigured Christ

Code of Hammurabi

**The Lipit-Ishtar Code
and
Laws of Eshnunna**

Exodus 21:2-4

“² If you buy a Hebrew slave, he shall serve for six years; but on the seventh he shall go out as a free man without payment. ³ If he comes alone, he shall go out alone; if he is the husband of a wife, then his wife shall go out with him. ⁴ If his master gives him a wife, and she bears him sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall belong to her master, and he shall go out alone.”

Exodus 20:2

“² I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.”

Exodus 21:16

“¹⁶ He who kidnaps a man, whether he sells him or he is found in his possession, shall surely be put to death.”

Exodus 21:2

“² If you buy a Hebrew slave, he shall serve for six years; but on the seventh he shall go out as a free man without payment.”

Deuteronomy 15:12-15

“¹² If your kinsman, a Hebrew man or woman, is sold to you, then he shall serve you six years, but in the seventh year you shall set him free. ¹³ When you set him free, you shall not send him away empty-handed. ¹⁴ You shall furnish him liberally from your flock and from your threshing floor and from your wine vat; you shall give to him as the Lord your God has blessed you. ¹⁵ You shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the Lord your God redeemed you; therefore I command you this today.”

Exodus 21:3

“³ If he comes alone, he shall go out alone; if he is the husband of a wife, then his wife shall go out with him.”

Exodus 21:4

“⁴ If his master gives him a wife, and she bears him sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall belong to her master, and he shall go out alone.”

We were all former slaves.

**The Union of
Marriage is always
important to God.**

**Pray for your elders
who sit at the city gate
to judge the people.**

**Now we are bond
servants of Christ, and
Jesus gave us the
example to follow.**