The Book of the Covenant

The Covenant at Mount Sinai

Exodus 19:5-6

"Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation."

The Covenant Details:

The Ten Commandments

Exodus 20:2-17

"You shall have no other gods before Me."

"You shall not make for yourself a carved image..."

"You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain..."

"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy."

"Honor your father and your mother."

"You shall not murder."

"You shall not commit adultery."

"You shall not steal."

"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor."

"You shall not covet anything that is your neighbor's."

The Altar Exodus 20:22-26

No man-made idols

Make an altar, in the place I will show you, from earth or natural stone, with no steps.

Human Relationships

Exodus 21:1-11

Exodus 21:12-27

A male Hebrew servant is to be released in the 7th year He leaves with the family he came in with

He may choose to be a bond servant to his master

A female Hebrew servant does not go out as a man would

If she does not please her master:

She shall be redeemed

She cannot be sold to a foreigner

If she is betrothed to his son:

She shall be treated as a daughter

If he takes another wife:

She shall still be treated as a wife

If not obeyed, she shall be set free

Violence to Other People

The pre-meditated murderer shall be put to death

But God will provide a refuge for the unintentional killer

He who strikes his father or his mother shall be put to death.

He who curses his father or his mother shall be put to death.

A kidnapper shall be put to death.

He who is injured in a fight is to be compensated for his lost time and medical expenses

A man shall be punished if he injures his servant to death....

But no punishment if the servant lives 1-2 days – considered to be property.

If the injury causes permanent disability, the servant is set free.

The punishment of one who injures a pregnant woman so she delivers prematurely shall be determined by her husband.

If she or the baby dies, the punishment is "life for life".

Violence Concerning Animals

Exodus 21:28-36

An animal that kills a person shall be put to death and the owner is not responsible....

Unless the owner knew beforehand, then he shall also be put to death.

The owner of an animal that injures a person shall pay restitution and the animal put to death.

If a servant is injured, the owner shall pay the master 30 shekels of silver

If an animal falls into an open pit, the pit's owner shall reimburse the animal's owner

...but the animal shall be the property of the pit's owner

If a man's animal kills another's animal, then the live animal shall be sold and proceeds split ...unless it was known beforehand, then the dead animal's owner receives 100%

Responsibility for Property

Exodus 22:1-15

Restitution for stolen ox (5X); for stolen sheep (4X)

If a man kills a thief in his home at night, he is not guilty of bloodshed.

...but if it is daylight, then he is guilty of bloodshed

The thief shall restore to the owner double.

If a man allows his animals to graze in his neighbor's field, he shall make restitution of the best of his fields.

If a man accidentally burns his neighbor's field, he shall make restitution.

If a thief steals something borrowed from your neighbor and he is caught, he must restore double. If not caught, then the judge must decide if the stole it himself.

In any property dispute (animals and things) brought to the judge, the guilty must restore double.

If a man borrows an animal and it dies in his possession (swearing an oath to the LORD), then the owner must accept it.

- ...but if it was stolen, the guilty must make restitution.
- ...or if it was killed by another animal, he shows the evidence and is free of responsibility.
- ...or if the owner was present at time of death, he is free of responsibility.

Moral & Ceremonial Principles

Exodus 22:16-31

If a man commits fornication with a virgin, he shall pay her father the bride price and marry her.

...if her father refuses, he shall pay him the bride price of a virgin.

"You shall not permit a sorceress to live."

"Whoever lies with an animal shall surely be put to death."

Anyone who sacrifices to any god other than the LORD shall be put to death.

Do not mistreat a stranger, for you were once strangers in Egypt.

Anyone who mistreats widows or orphans will be put to death; <u>his</u> wife will become a widow and <u>his</u> children orphans.

You shall charge no interest when you lend money to your brother.

If you require his garment as a pledge, return it to him before sundown (do not humiliate him).

"You shall not revile God, nor curse a ruler of your people."

Do not delay offering the Firstfruits of your fields nor from your herds and flocks.

The firstborn shall be with its mother 7 days, then shall it be offered on the 8th day.

"The firstborn of you sons you shall give to Me."

You shall be holy to Me: eat no meat torn by beasts in the field.

Equal Justice Exodus 23:1-9

Do not circulate a false report.

Do not be a false witness.

Do not follow a crowd to do evil.

Do not testify falsely so as to pervert justice.

Do not show partiality to a poor man in a dispute.

Show kindness to your enemies' animals.

Do not pervert the judgment of the poor in his dispute.

"Keep yourself far from a false matter."

"Do not kill the innocent and righteous."

Do not take a bribe.

Do not oppress a stranger, because you were strangers in the land of Egypt.

Shabbats & Shmitahs Exodus 23:10-13

Neither sow nor reap the produce of the land in the 7th year; let it rest.

...that which sprouts may feed the poor among you and the animals.

Likewise, six days you shall work and on the 7th day you shall rest...

...that you, your animals, your servants and the stranger among you may be refreshed.

Guard what you speak: make no mention of the name of any other gods.

The Mo'edim Exodus 23:14-19a

Passover – fully described in Exodus 12

The Feast of Unleavened Bread Included the Feast if Firstfruits The Feast of Harvest (*Shavuot*)

The Feast of Ingathering (*Sukkot*)

All Shall Offer the First of the Firstfruits of their Harvest

Excluded are:Trumpets & Atonements

Through God's Covenant, our names are <u>already</u> written in the Book of Life. No judgment here!!

The blood of the sacrifice shall not be offered with leavened bread

The fat of the sacrifice shall not remain until morning

Dietary Laws

"You shall not boil a young goat in its mother's milk." (Do not offer sacrifices that were improperly killed – note the context!)

Exodus 23:19b

Initially, Vegetarian

"God said, "See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food."

Genesis 1:29

And Confirmed after the Fall: "And you shall eat the fruit of the field."

Genesis 3:18

Meat Added after the Flood: "Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you.

Genesis 9:3-4

I have given you all things, even as the green herbs. But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood."

So, the connection is made in verse 3: from Eden, it had always been permissible to eat "green herbs"; then God ordained the eating of animals...but only those animals that would eat the "green herbs". There was then one degree of separation added to the dietary laws: green herbs and only those animals that ate green herbs.

God expected *Noach* to know clean from unclean

God's Protection & Provision

Exodus 23:20-33

His Son Yeshua:

"Behold, I send an Angel before you to keep you in the way and to bring you into the place which I have prepared. Obey His Voice...for My Name is in Him"

If you indeed obey His voice and do all that I speak, then I will:

Be an enemy to your enemies

Be an adversary to your adversaries

When you serve God, He will:

Bless your bread and your water

Take sickness away from you

Cause no one to suffer miscarriage or be barren

Fulfill the number of your days

Send His fear before you

Cause confusion among your enemies

Make all your enemies turn their backs to you

He will drive them out little by little so you may subdue the land.

Give you The Land: from the Red Sea to the Mediterranean to the Euphrates

Pagans will not dwell in it

The Covenant Ratified

1. Reading the Covenant: "Then he took the Book of the Covenant

and read in the hearing of the people."

Exodus 24:7a

2. The Agreement: "All the words which the Lord has said we will do."

Exodus 24:7b

3. The Shedding of Blood: "Then he sent young men of the children of

Exodus 24:5-6

Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the Lord. And Moses took half the blood and put it in basins,

and half the blood he sprinkled on the altar."

4. Covenant-Confirming Meal: "So they saw God, and they ate and drank."

Exodus 24:11b

The Book of the Covenant is God's Perfect Will – the Book of the Law is God's Permissive Will

Established Patterns (Genesis 1:1 – Exodus 24:11)

Creation: All of God's Creation reproduced "after his kind"

The seed of the Earth

Genesis 1:11 & 12

The seed of animals Genesis 1:24 & 25; 6:20; 7:14

Creation: Yes!! Evolution: No

Heterosexual Marriages: All Biblical marriages were between a man and a woman

"Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife,

and they shall become one flesh."

Genesis 2:24

Sacrifice Offerings: Firstfruits (Thanksgiving) Offerings of Cain & Abel

Genesis 4
Genesis 8

Ascension Offering at *Yitro's* covenant meal Ascension & Peace (Fellowship) Offerings at Sinai

Ascension (Burnt) Offerings of *Noach* (Dedication)

Exodus 18 Exodus 20

Ascension & Peace Offerings at BoC ratification

Exodus 24:5

Note: No Sin nor Trespass Offerings

Rav Shaul's interpretation: "present your bodies a living sacrifice... your reasonable service"

Rom 12:1

Circumcision: Male circumcision is a sign of the Covenant....

Genesis 17:9

which was broken by Israel

Circumcision of the heart (in the Spirit) is the sign of the New Covenant

Romans 2:25-29

Homosexuality: God judged Sodom because they condoned homosexuality

Genesis 19:5