

# Exodus 23

JPS [\[Online\]](#)

## Justice and Mercy

<sup>1</sup>Thou shalt not utter a false report; put not thy hand with the wicked to be an unrighteous witness.  
<sup>2</sup>Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil; neither shalt thou bear witness in a cause to turn aside after a multitude to pervert justice; <sup>3</sup>neither shalt thou favour a poor man in his cause.

**4**If thou meet thine enemy's ox or his ass going astray, thou shalt surely bring it back to him again. **5**If thou see the ass of him that hateth thee lying under its burden, thou shalt forbear to pass by him; thou shalt surely release it with him.

**6**Thou shalt not wrest the judgment of thy poor in his cause. **7**Keep thee far from a false matter; and the innocent and righteous slay thou not; for I will not justify the wicked.

**8**And thou shalt take no gift; for a gift blindeth them that have sight, and perverteth the words of the righteous.

**9**And a stranger shalt thou not oppress; for ye know the heart of a stranger, seeing ye were strangers in the land of Egypt.

### **Sabbath Laws**

(Leviticus 25:1–7; Deuteronomy 15:1–6)

**10**And six years thou shalt sow thy land, and gather in the increase thereof; **11**but the seventh year thou shalt let it rest and lie fallow, that the poor of thy people may eat; and what they leave the beast of the field shall eat. In like manner thou shalt deal with thy vineyard, and with thy oliveyard.

**12**Six days thou shalt do thy work, but on the seventh day thou shalt rest; that thine ox and thine ass may have rest, and the son of thy handmaid, and the stranger, may be refreshed. **13**And in all things that I have said unto you take ye heed; and make no mention of the name of other gods, neither let it be heard out of thy mouth.

### **The Three Feasts of Pilgrimage**

(Leviticus 23:1–3)

**14**Three times thou shalt keep a feast unto Me in the year. **15**The feast of unleavened bread shalt thou keep; seven days thou shalt eat unleavened bread, as I commanded thee, at the time appointed in the month Abib—for in it thou camest out from Egypt; and none shall appear before Me empty; **16**and the feast of harvest, the first-fruits of thy labours, which thou sowest in the field; and the feast of ingathering, at the end of the year, when thou gatherest in thy labours out of the field. **17**Three times in the year all thy males shall appear before the Lord GOD.

**18**Thou shalt not offer the blood of My sacrifice with leavened bread; neither shall the fat of My feast remain all night until the morning.

**19**The choicest first-fruits of thy land thou shalt bring into the house of the LORD thy God. Thou shalt not seethe a kid in its mother's milk.

### **God's Angel to Lead**

(Deuteronomy 7:12–26)

**20**Behold, I send an angel before thee, to keep thee by the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared. **21**Take heed of him, and hearken unto his voice; be not rebellious against him; for he will not pardon your transgression; for My name is in him. **22**But if thou shalt indeed hearken unto his voice, and do all that I speak; then I will be an enemy unto thine enemies, and an adversary unto thine adversaries. **23**For Mine angel shall go before thee, and bring thee in unto the Amorite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, and the Canaanite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite; and I will cut them off.

**24**Thou shalt not bow down to their gods, nor serve them, nor do after their doings; but thou shalt utterly overthrow them, and break in pieces their pillars. **25**And ye shall serve the LORD your God, and He will bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee. **26**None shall miscarry, nor be barren, in thy land; the number of thy days I will fulfil. **27**I will send My terror before thee, and will discomfit all the people to whom thou shalt come, and I will make all thine enemies turn their backs unto thee. **28**And I will send the hornet before thee, which shall drive out the Hivite, the Canaanite, and the Hittite, from before thee. **29**I will not drive them out from before thee in one year, lest the land become desolate, and the beasts of the field multiply against thee. **30**By little and little I will drive them out from before thee, until thou be increased, and inherit the land. **31**And I will set thy border from the Red Sea even unto the sea of the Philistines, and from the wilderness unto the River; for I will deliver the inhabitants of the land into your hand; and thou shalt drive them out before thee. **32**Thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor with their gods. **33**They shall not dwell in thy land—lest they make thee sin against Me, for thou wilt serve their gods—for they will be a snare unto thee.