

Exodus 21-24 Bible Study

Objective: This study guide explores Exodus chapters 21-24 through the interdisciplinary STEAMS approach, connecting Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics, and Social Studies to provide a comprehensive understanding of the laws, justice system, and the covenant made with Israel at Mount Sinai. Participants will gain insight into how these chapters established the foundations of justice, ethical behavior, and societal structure for the Israelites.

Key Components

Science (S): Environmental Influence on Ancient Laws

- ❖ **Topic:**
Examine how environmental and agricultural factors shaped the laws of Exodus 21-24, including rules on property, livestock, and land use.
- ❖ **Study Focus:**
Agriculture and Law: Research the relationship between environmental conditions and laws regarding livestock, crops, and property rights in ancient Israel. Discuss how these factors influenced daily life and legal structure.

<p>Technology (T): Creating and Engraving the Covenant</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Topic: Explore the ancient technologies and tools used to engrave stone and produce items associated with the covenant, such as altars and sacrificial tools. ❖ Study Focus: Engraving Stone Tablets: Investigate the methods and tools used in ancient times to engrave stone, specifically focusing on how the Israelites may have documented the covenant on stone tablets (Exodus 24:12).
<p>Engineering (E): Sacred Space Design and Construction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Topic: Analyze the engineering and design involved in constructing altars and sacred spaces for the Israelites to worship and make offerings as instructed in Exodus 20-24. ❖ Study Focus: Altar Construction: Examine the engineering principles, including the use of materials and the functionality of the design, that were applied in the construction of altars and spaces for worship.
<p>Arts (A): Artistic Expression of Justice and Law</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Topic: Explore the visual and literary representation of justice, ethical behavior, and law in ancient Israel. ❖ Project: Visual Depiction of Justice: Create a poem of the justice system laid out in Exodus 21-23. Highlight how these laws reflect fairness, equality, and divine authority.

<p>Mathematics (M): Proportions in Restitution and Justice</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Topic: Analyze the mathematical aspects of the laws regarding restitution and compensation in Exodus 21-24, such as property damage, theft, and personal injury. ❖ Project: Restitution Calculations: Using examples from Exodus 22:1-4, calculate the restitution required for various offenses, such as theft and property damage. Create a chart showing how the prescribed compensation reflects proportional justice.
<p>Social Studies (SS): Ethical and Social Implications of Covenant Law</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Topic: Examine the ethical and social implications of the laws outlined in Exodus 21-24, focusing on how these laws formed the foundation of Israelite society. ❖ Study Focus: Social Structure and Law: Study how the covenant and laws outlined in these chapters formed the social and legal foundation of Israelite society, promoting fairness, accountability, and communal identity under divine governance.

Key Takeaways

As we conclude our study of Exodus 21-24, we see how God's laws formed the foundation of justice, ethical behavior, and societal structure for the Israelites. These chapters illustrate the importance of fairness, restitution, and holiness in shaping a community that honors God's covenant. Much like the Israelites, we are called to uphold principles of justice, equity, and righteousness in our lives, trusting in God's wisdom and guidance as we navigate the complexities of ethical decision-making and community life.