

Chapter 21

Judicial precepts concerning bondmen and bondwemen. 12. Manflaughter and striking: killing and curfing of parents. 23. The lavv of like paine for a hurt, 28. of an oxe striking vvith his horne.

These are the ^ajudgements which thou shalt propose to them. ² If thou bye an Hebrew feruant, six yeares shall he ferue thee: in the feuenth he shall goe out free gratis. ³ With what rayment he entred in, with the like let him go out: if hauing a wife, his wife also shall goe out with him. ⁴ But if his lord geue him a wife, and she beare sonnes & daughters: the woman and her children shall be her lordes: but himselfe shall goe out with his rayment. ⁵ And if the feruant say: I loue my lord and wife & children, I wil not goe out free: ⁶ his lord shall present him to ^bthe goddes, and he shall be fette to the dore and the postes, and he shall bore his eare through with an awle: and he shall be his bondman for euer. ⁷ If any man fel his daughter to be a feruant, she shall not goe out, as bondwemen are wont to goe out. ⁸ If she mislike the eyes of her maister to whom she was deliuered, he shall difmiffe her: but he shall not haue authoritie to fel her vnto a strange people, if he despise her. ⁹ But if he despouse her to his sonne, he shall doe to her after the maner of daughters. ¹⁰ And if he take an other wife for him, he shall prouide her a mariage, and rayment, and the price of her chafitie he shall not denie. ¹¹ If he doe not these three thinges, she shall goe out gratis without monie. ¹² He that striketh a man wilfully to kil him, dying let him die. ¹³ But he that did not lye in waite for him, but God deliuered him into his handes: I wil appoint thee a place whereunto he ought to flee. ¹⁴ If a man of fette purpose kil his neighbour, and by lying in waite for him: thou shalt plucke

^a Judicial lawes do instruct in particular, how to kepe the commandments of the fecond table, pertaining to our neighbours.

^b The Iudges authorized by God.

him out from mine Altare, that he may die. ¹⁵ He that
ftriketh his father or mother, dying let him die. ¹⁶ He
that shal fteale a man, and fel him, being conuicted of
the trespaffe, dying let him die. ¹⁷ He that curfeth his
father, or mother, dying let him die. ¹⁸ If men fal at
wordes, and the one ftrike his neighbour with a ftone or
with his fift, and he die not, but lye in his bedde: ¹⁹ if he
rife, and walke abrode vpon his ftafe, he that did ftrike
shal be quitte, yet fo that he make reftitution for his
worke, and for his expenfes vpon the phificians. ²⁰ He
that ftriketh his man or mayde feruant with a rodde, and
they die in his handes, he shal be guiltie of the crime.
²¹ But if the partie remayne aliue a day or two, he shal
not be fubiect to punishment, becaufe it is his money.
²² If certaine fal at wordes, and one ftrike a woman with
child, and she in deede aborte, but her felfe liue: he shal
be fubiect to fo much damage as the womans hufband
shal require, and as arbiters shal award. ²³ But if her
death doe enfue thereupon, he shal render life for life,
²⁴ eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foote for
foote, ²⁵ aduftion for aduftion, wound for wound, ftripe
for ftripe. ²⁶ If any man ftrike the eye of his manferu-
ant or maidferuant, and leaue them but one eye, he shal
make them free for the eye which he put out. ²⁷ Also
if he ftrike out a tooth of his manferuant or maydferu-
ant he shal in like maner make them free. ²⁸ If an oxe
with his horne ftrike a man or woman, and they die,
he shal be ftoned: and his flesh shal not be eaten, the
owner also of the oxe shal be quitte. ²⁹ But if the oxe
were wont to ftrike from yefterday and the day before,
and they warned his maifter, neither did he shutte him
vp, and he kil a man or a woman: both the oxe shal
be ftoned, and they shal put to death his owner also.
³⁰ And if they fette a price vpon him, he shal geue for
his life whatfoeuer he is asked. ³¹ Also if with his horne
he ftrike a fonne, or a daughter, he shal be fubiect to the
like fentence. ³² If he inuade a bondman or bondwoman,
he shal geue thirtie ficles of filuer to their maifter, but
the oxe shal be ftoned. ³³ If a man open a cefterne, and
digge one, and doe not couer it, an oxe or an affe fal into

it, ³⁴ the owner of the cefterne shal pay the price of the beaftes: and that which died, shal be his owne. ³⁵ If one mans oxe gore an other mans oxe, and he die: they shal fel the oxe that liueth, and shal diuide the price, and the carcaffe of that which died they shal parte between them. ³⁶ But if he knew that his oxe was wont to fstrike from yefterday and the day before, and his maifter did not keepe him in: he shal render oxe for oxe, and shal take the carcaffe whole.