

Exodus 22

Read Exodus 22: It is completely logical that a thief or a negligent offender replaces what they took, plus a penalty to discourage a repeat crime. It takes time and money to restore things to they way they were. Otherwise, it would just be a free loan. If he is judgement-proof, he would be put in debtor's prison.

If a thief is killed in your house at night, you are not considered a murderer. That is called the Castle Doctrine. That does not mean that you can shoot him in the back as he is running out the door.

- Stand-your-ground (no duty to retreat outside the home in many places) – statutory or judicially recognized in most states (e.g., AL, AK, AZ, AR, FL, GA, ID, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, MI, MS, MO, MT, NV, NH, NC, ND, OH, OK, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, WV, WY, and others). These laws let a person use deadly force when they reasonably believe it's necessary to prevent death/serious injury or certain forcible felonies.

[Wikipedia +2](#)

- Duty to retreat (or "retreat required" outside the home) – a minority of jurisdictions retain a duty to retreat in public before using deadly force unless retreat would be unsafe; but even these jurisdictions generally apply the castle doctrine inside the home (examples: CT, DE, HI, MA, MD, ME, MN, NJ, NY, RI, WI – subject to statutory/judicial nuance).

[Wikipedia +2](#)

What about frivolous or malicious lawsuits? Yes, you can seek damages, but you may not come out even.

Yes — you can seek damages for frivolous or malicious lawsuits

Causes of action (common)

- **Malicious prosecution** — after a criminal prosecution ends in your favor (e.g., acquittal, dismissal for reasons showing innocence).
- **Abuse of process** — wrongful use of legal process for an ulterior motive (civil or criminal process).
- **Frivolous civil suit sanctions** — court rules (e.g., Rule 11 in federal court and state analogues) allow sanctions against attorneys/parties who file frivolous pleadings.
- **Strike statutes / anti-SLAPP** — permit fee recovery and dismissal where suits target lawful speech or petitioning activity (varies by state).

Any theft case will result in the guilty party paying double. If you borrow something and break it, you must restore it.

Anyone who commits fornication must pay the parents a bride's price (mohar). A mohar is different than a dowry. A mohar is a guardianship transfer wherein the groom's family pays the bride's family. The recognition of value is for her economic contributions to the family and value for future children. A dowry is money given from the groom's family to the bride's family to set up household funds and finances.

It depends on time and place; practices varied. Common patterns:

- **Paid to the bride's family (held by parents)**
 - In some societies the dowry was transferred into the bride's parents' control first, to be held until they arranged the marriage or to be redistributed among heirs.
- **Paid to the bride herself (or placed under her control)**
 - Dowries could be given directly to the bride as her personal property or legal entitlement (a "marriage portion" or jointure) to provide security if widowed or divorced.
- **Transferred to the new couple (or the groom/head of household)**
 - Often dowry goods/money became part of the new household's assets—furnishings, land, cash—effectively supporting the couple's household and managed by the husband.
- **Held in trust or legally protected**
 - In many legal systems the dowry was formally recorded and protected (e.g., assigned as the bride's separate estate, or held in trust by kin) so the bride retained rights even if the household controlled its use.

A lot has been made of the Salem Witch Trials. Nobody was ever burned. 20 people were hanged. The Bible says that in ancient Israel, witches and warlocks were not to be allowed to live. The first reaction from an unbeliever would be one

of sympathy and outrage. Let's play out any time in history when witches were allowed to practice their craft. False prophets led people astray and prognosticators influenced kings. Entire nations were destroyed by this bad advice. The societal norms caved into a pit of confusion and self-destruction. Death and curses came upon the population from choosing anti-God positions. Not following God is about as bad as following evil. It all leads to the same place. The Satanic Bible does not tell you to curse God. It tells you just to do your own thing.

Bestiality is a capital offense in this chapter.

- United States: Every U.S. state and many territories prohibit bestiality; penalties range from misdemeanors to felonies (jail or prison, fines, sex-offender registration in some states). It is not a federal capital offense; no U.S. state treats consensual bestiality as a crime punishable by death.
- Other countries: Many countries criminalize sexual acts with animals; penalties vary widely and rarely include capital punishment.

A person might argue that bestiality is a victimless crime. The bible calls it an abomination. Basically, all sins are rooted in desires, met in inappropriate ways.

Several sexually transmitted infections (STIs) that affect humans are believed to have originated from animals (zoonotic origin). Key examples:

- HIV (Human immunodeficiency virus): Originated from simian immunodeficiency viruses (SIV) in chimpanzees and sooty mangabeys; cross-species transmission likely occurred through hunting/exposure to infected blood and then spread sexually among humans.
- Human T-lymphotropic virus (HTLV) types: HTLV-1 and HTLV-2 have close relatives in primates (simian T-lymphotropic viruses), indicating ancient cross-species transfers.
- *Treponema pallidum* subspecies (syphilis and related treponemal infections): The evolutionary history is complex; some evidence suggests treponemal diseases in humans diverged from strains in nonhuman primates, though origins and timing are debated.
- Gonorrhea (*Neisseria gonorrhoeae*) and Chlamydia trachomatis: Both have close bacterial relatives in animals; genomic studies indicate these pathogens evolved from nonhuman ancestors, with human-adapted lineages arising through host jumps and long-term adaptation.
- *Trichomonas vaginalis*: This protozoan parasite's closest relatives infect other mammals, suggesting a zoonotic ancestor before adapting to humans.

Yes — human herpes viruses have deep animal origins. HSV-1 has co-diverged with hominids for millions of years (present in our lineage before the human–chimp split), while HSV-2 entered human ancestors via a cross-species jump from a chimpanzee simplex virus roughly ~1.6 million years ago. Modern HSV strains are now human-adapted and transmit primarily human-to-human. [National Institutes of He...](#) [University of California](#)

Similarly, one could argue a *live and let live* position on idolatry. The Old Testament is about the results of that errant assumption. Idolatry has killed 2/3's

of the Hebrew population over and over and over throughout history. It is not that they were worse offenders than the heathen, but judgement begins at the house of the LORD. We see how these things work in our society today. A aberrant fringe group will fight for the freedom to practice their beliefs. Then they fight for equality. Then they fight for reparations or quotas. Then they force their agenda on the masses in the name of antidiscrimination. Then they turn on the godly people and try to discredit and destroy them.

We are to take care of the aliens, widows, handicapped, orphans and outcasts from society. We are to be people of mercy. That in no way entails that we pay for housing if they are not working. That in no way allows them to commit fraud, treason, insurrection, protest, etc... Working age and able-bodied people should be expected to work. In the Old Testament they did not give them money or bags of grain like we do. They would point to a small, unharvested corner of a wheat field they could pick and make their own bread from. That is a far cry from our disincentives to work.

For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat. ¹¹ For we hear that there are some who walk among you in a disorderly manner, not working at all, but are busybodies. ¹² Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread. (2 Thessalonians 3)

Usury laws require that we do not charge excessive interest today. How much interest triggers usury violations? There are some pretty rough hard-money lenders out there and loan sharks. The Jews were not supposed to even charge interest if they were helping someone down and out.

Usury laws are interest rate laws. These laws prevent lenders from providing extraordinarily expensive – or usurious – loans to consumers.

There's no federal law that sets maximum interest rates on all consumer loans; rather, rates are restricted at the state level. This means usury laws vary between states.

Most states have been restricting interest rates for the majority of their existence, says Lauren Saunders, associate director and director of federal advocacy at the National Consumer Law Center (NCLC).

Today, a patchwork of usury laws made to accommodate banks, payday lenders and various types of loans govern interest rates in each state.

God also qualifies what constitutes an offering of first fruits. God owns all things; but he lets us keep most of it. A king expects taxes, but God does not need our

money...but it is good for us to give. We need to break the financial bond from holding money too tightly.