

# BIBLE

## Genesis 17

## New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

### The Sign of the Covenant

17 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, “I am God Almighty;<sup>[a]</sup> walk before me, and be blameless. <sup>2</sup>And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.” <sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, <sup>4</sup>“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be Abram,<sup>[b]</sup> but your name shall be Abraham;<sup>[c]</sup> for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring<sup>[d]</sup> after you. <sup>8</sup>And I will give to you, and to your offspring after you, the land where you are now an alien, all the land of Canaan, for a perpetual holding; and I will be their God.”

## Genesis 26

## New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

### Isaac and Abimelech

26 Now there was a famine in the land, besides the former famine that had occurred in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went to Gerar, to King Abimelech of the Philistines. <sup>2</sup>The Lord appeared to Isaac<sup>[a]</sup> and said, “Do not go down to Egypt; settle in the land that I shall show you. <sup>3</sup>Reside in this land as an alien, and I will be with you, and will bless you; for to you and to your descendants I will give all these lands, and I will fulfill the oath that I swore to your father Abraham. <sup>4</sup>I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven, and will give to your offspring all these lands; and all the nations of the earth shall gain blessing for themselves through your offspring, <sup>5</sup>because Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws

## Exodus 12

## New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

### Directions for the Passover

<sup>43</sup> The Lord said to Moses and Aaron: This is the ordinance for the passover: no foreigner shall eat of it, <sup>44</sup>but any slave who has been purchased may eat of it after he has been circumcised; <sup>45</sup>no bound or hired servant may eat of it. <sup>46</sup>It shall be eaten in one house; you shall not take any of the animal outside the house, and you shall not break any of its bones. <sup>47</sup>The whole congregation of Israel shall celebrate it. <sup>48</sup>If an alien who resides with you wants to celebrate the passover to the Lord, all his males shall be circumcised; then he may draw near to celebrate it; he shall be regarded as a native of the land. But no uncircumcised person shall eat of it; <sup>49</sup>there shall be one law for the native and for the alien who resides among you.

## Exodus 20 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

### The Ten Commandments

20 Then God spoke all these words:

<sup>2</sup>I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; <sup>3</sup>you shall have no other gods before<sup>[a]</sup> me.

<sup>4</sup>You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation<sup>[a]</sup> of those who love me and keep my commandments.

<sup>7</sup>You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

<sup>8</sup>Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all your work. <sup>10</sup>But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. <sup>11</sup>For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

<sup>12</sup>Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

<sup>13</sup>You shall not murder.<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup>You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

<sup>17</sup>You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

<sup>18</sup>When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid<sup>[a]</sup> and trembled and stood at a distance, <sup>19</sup>and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." <sup>20</sup>Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin." <sup>21</sup>Then the people stood at a distance, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was

## Exodus 22 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

### Social and Religious Laws

<sup>16</sup> When a man seduces a virgin who is not engaged to be married, and lies with her, he shall give the bride-price for her and make her his wife. <sup>17</sup> But if her father refuses to give her to him, he shall pay an amount equal to the bride-price for virgins.

<sup>18</sup> You shall not permit a female sorcerer to live.

<sup>19</sup> Whoever lies with an animal shall be put to death.

<sup>20</sup> Whoever sacrifices to any god, other than the Lord alone, shall be devoted to destruction.

<sup>21</sup> You shall not wrong or oppress a resident alien, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt.

<sup>22</sup> You shall not abuse any widow or orphan. <sup>23</sup> If you do abuse them, when they cry out to me, I will surely heed their cry; <sup>24</sup> my wrath will burn, and I will kill you with the sword, and your wives shall become widows and your children orphans

## **Exodus 23      New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

### **Justice for All**

<sup>23</sup> You shall not spread a false report. You shall not join hands with the wicked to act as a malicious witness. <sup>2</sup> You shall not follow a majority in wrongdoing; when you bear witness in a lawsuit, you shall not side with the majority so as to pervert justice; <sup>3</sup> nor shall you be partial to the poor in a lawsuit.

<sup>4</sup> When you come upon your enemy's ox or donkey going astray, you shall bring it back.

<sup>5</sup> When you see the donkey of one who hates you lying under its burden and you would hold back from setting it free, you must help to set it free.<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>6</sup> You shall not pervert the justice due to your poor in their lawsuits. <sup>7</sup> Keep far from a false charge, and do not kill the innocent and those in the right, for I will not acquit the guilty. <sup>8</sup> You shall take no bribe, for a bribe blinds the officials, and subverts the cause of those who are in the right.

<sup>9</sup> You shall not oppress a resident alien; you know the heart of an alien, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt.

## **Numbers 15      New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

### **Various Offerings**

. <sup>14</sup> An alien who lives with you, or who takes up permanent residence among you, and wishes to offer an offering by fire, a pleasing odor to the Lord, shall do as you do. <sup>15</sup> As for the assembly,

there shall be for both you and the resident alien a single statute, a perpetual statute throughout your generations; you and the alien shall be alike before the Lord. <sup>16</sup>You and the alien who resides with you shall have the same law and the same ordinance.

## **Deuteronomy 1                      New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

### **Appointment of Tribal Leaders**

<sup>9</sup> At that time I said to you, “I am unable by myself to bear you. <sup>10</sup>The Lord your God has multiplied you, so that today you are as numerous as the stars of heaven. <sup>11</sup>May the Lord, the God of your ancestors, increase you a thousand times more and bless you, as he has promised you! <sup>12</sup>But how can I bear the heavy burden of your disputes all by myself? <sup>13</sup>Choose for each of your tribes individuals who are wise, discerning, and reputable to be your leaders.” <sup>14</sup>You answered me, “The plan you have proposed is a good one.” <sup>15</sup>So I took the leaders of your tribes, wise and reputable individuals, and installed them as leaders over you, commanders of thousands, commanders of hundreds, commanders of fifties, commanders of tens, and officials, throughout your tribes. <sup>16</sup>I charged your judges at that time: “Give the members of your community a fair hearing, and judge rightly between one person and another, whether citizen or resident alien. <sup>17</sup>You must not be partial in judging: hear out the small and the great alike; you shall not be intimidated by anyone, for the judgment is God’s. Any case that is too hard for you, bring to me, and I will hear it.” <sup>18</sup>So I charged you at that time with all the things that you should do

## **Deuteronomy 24                      New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

### **Miscellaneous Laws**

<sup>14</sup> You shall not withhold the wages of poor and needy laborers, whether other Israelites or aliens who reside in your land in one of your towns. <sup>15</sup>You shall pay them their wages daily before sunset, because they are poor and their livelihood depends on them; otherwise they might cry to the Lord against you, and you would incur guilt.

<sup>16</sup> Parents shall not be put to death for their children, nor shall children be put to death for their parents; only for their own crimes may persons be put to death.

<sup>17</sup> You shall not deprive a resident alien or an orphan of justice; you shall not take a widow’s garment in pledge. <sup>18</sup>Remember that you were a slave in Egypt and the Lord your God redeemed you from there; therefore I command you to do this.

<sup>19</sup> When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it; it shall be left for the alien, the orphan, and the widow, so that the Lord your God may bless you in all your undertakings. <sup>20</sup>When you beat your olive trees, do not strip what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow.

<sup>21</sup> When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, do not glean what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow. <sup>22</sup> Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt; therefore I am commanding you to do this

## **Deuteronomy 27**

## **New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

### **The Inscribed Stones and Altar on Mount Ebal**

#### **Twelve Curses**

<sup>11</sup> The same day Moses charged the people as follows: <sup>12</sup> When you have crossed over the Jordan, these shall stand on Mount Gerizim for the blessing of the people: Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Joseph, and Benjamin. <sup>13</sup> And these shall stand on Mount Ebal for the curse: Reuben, Gad, Asher, Zebulun, Dan, and Naphtali. <sup>14</sup> Then the Levites shall declare in a loud voice to all the Israelites:

<sup>15</sup> “Cursed be anyone who makes an idol or casts an image, anything abhorrent to the Lord, the work of an artisan, and sets it up in secret.” All the people shall respond, saying, “Amen!”

<sup>16</sup> “Cursed be anyone who dishonors father or mother.” All the people shall say, “Amen!”

<sup>17</sup> “Cursed be anyone who moves a neighbor’s boundary marker.” All the people shall say, “Amen!”

<sup>18</sup> “Cursed be anyone who misleads a blind person on the road.” All the people shall say, “Amen!”

<sup>19</sup> “Cursed be anyone who deprives the alien, the orphan, and the widow of justice.” All the people shall say, “Amen!”

## **Jeremiah 7**

## **New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

### **Jeremiah Proclaims God’s Judgment on the Nation**

<sup>7</sup> The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: <sup>2</sup> Stand in the gate of the Lord’s house, and proclaim there this word, and say, Hear the word of the Lord, all you people of Judah, you that enter these gates to worship the Lord. <sup>3</sup> Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Amend your ways and your doings, and let me dwell with you <sup>a</sup> in this place. <sup>4</sup> Do not trust in these deceptive words: “This is <sup>b</sup> the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord.”

<sup>5</sup> For if you truly amend your ways and your doings, if you truly act justly one with another, <sup>6</sup> if you do not oppress the alien, the orphan, and the widow, or shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not go after other gods to your own hurt, <sup>7</sup> then I will dwell with you in this place, in the land that I gave of old to your ancestors forever and ever.

**Exhortation to Repent**

22 Thus says the Lord: Go down to the house of the king of Judah, and speak there this word, <sup>2</sup> and say: Hear the word of the Lord, O King of Judah sitting on the throne of David—you, and your servants, and your people who enter these gates. <sup>3</sup> Thus says the Lord: Act with justice and righteousness, and deliver from the hand of the oppressor anyone who has been robbed. And do no wrong or violence to the alien, the orphan, and the widow, or shed innocent blood in this place. <sup>4</sup> For if you will indeed obey this word, then through the gates of this house shall enter kings who sit on the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they, and their servants, and their people. <sup>5</sup> But if you will not heed these words, I swear by myself, says the Lord, that this house shall become a desolation.

**The Bloody City**

22 The word of the Lord came to me: <sup>2</sup> You, mortal, will you judge, will you judge the bloody city? Then declare to it all its abominable deeds. <sup>3</sup> You shall say, Thus says the Lord God: A city! Shedding blood within itself; its time has come; making its idols, defiling itself. <sup>4</sup> You have become guilty by the blood that you have shed, and defiled by the idols that you have made; you have brought your day near, the appointed time of your years has come. Therefore I have made you a disgrace before the nations, and a mockery to all the countries. <sup>5</sup> Those who are near and those who are far from you will mock you, you infamous one, full of tumult.

<sup>6</sup> The princes of Israel in you, everyone according to his power, have been bent on shedding blood. <sup>7</sup> Father and mother are treated with contempt in you; the alien residing within you suffers extortion; the orphan and the widow are wronged in you. <sup>8</sup> You have despised my holy things, and profaned my sabbaths. <sup>9</sup> In you are those who slander to shed blood, those in you who eat upon the mountains, who commit lewdness in your midst. <sup>10</sup> In you they uncover their fathers' nakedness; in you they violate women in their menstrual periods. <sup>11</sup> One commits abomination with his neighbor's wife; another lewdly defiles his daughter-in-law; another in you defiles his sister, his father's daughter. <sup>12</sup> In you, they take bribes to shed blood; you take both advance interest and accrued interest, and make gain of your neighbors by extortion; and you have forgotten me, says the Lord God.

**Spiritual Gifts****One Body with Many Members**

<sup>12</sup> For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup> Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup> If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup> And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup> But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup> If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup> As it is, there are many members, yet one body. <sup>21</sup> The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” <sup>22</sup> On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup> and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; <sup>24</sup> whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, <sup>25</sup> that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup> If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

<sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it

## **Galatians 3**

## **New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

### **Law or Faith**

#### **The Purpose of the Law**

<sup>19</sup> Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring<sup>[a]</sup> would come to whom the promise had been made; and it was ordained through angels by a mediator. <sup>20</sup> Now a mediator involves more than one party; but God is one.

<sup>21</sup> Is the law then opposed to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could make alive, then righteousness would indeed come through the law. <sup>22</sup> But the scripture has imprisoned all things under the power of sin, so that what was promised through faith in Jesus Christ<sup>[b]</sup> might be given to those who believe.

<sup>23</sup> Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup> Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup> But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, <sup>26</sup> for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. <sup>27</sup> As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring,<sup>[c]</sup> heirs according to the promise.

## **Deuteronomy 6 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

## The Great Commandment

6 Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that the Lord your God charged me to teach you to observe in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy, <sup>2</sup>so that you and your children and your children’s children may fear the Lord your God all the days of your life, and keep all his decrees and his commandments that I am commanding you, so that your days may be long. <sup>3</sup>Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe them diligently, so that it may go well with you, and so that you may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, has promised you.

<sup>4</sup>Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>5</sup>You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. <sup>6</sup>Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. <sup>7</sup>Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. <sup>8</sup>Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem<sup>[b]</sup> on your forehead, <sup>9</sup>and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

<sup>20</sup>When your children ask you in time to come, “What is the meaning of the decrees and the statutes and the ordinances that the Lord our God has commanded you?” <sup>21</sup>then you shall say to your children, “We were Pharaoh’s slaves in Egypt, but the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. <sup>22</sup>The Lord displayed before our eyes great and awesome signs and wonders against Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his household. <sup>23</sup>He brought us out from there in order to bring us in, to give us the land that he promised on oath to our ancestors. <sup>24</sup>Then the Lord commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, for our lasting good, so as to keep us alive, as is now the case. <sup>25</sup>If we diligently observe this entire commandment before the Lord our God, as he has commanded us, we will be in the right.”