**Bible Study Chart**

**God’s Law**

**and**

**Spiritual Requirements repeated in the New Testament**

**By Craig M White**

**Version 1.0**

“The xxxxxxx*?*)

**Contents**

**Introductory Remarks** 3

**God’s Eternal and Consistent Way of Life** 3

**Chart. God’s Laws and Way of Life Before Moses** 4

**Ten Commandments** 4

**Holy Days or proto-Holy Days** 8

**Other Laws and Requirements** 9

**Concluding Remarks** 21

**References and Additional Reading** 22

**History Research Projects**

GPO Box 864, Sydney, Australia 2001

[www.originofnations.org](http://www.originofnations.org)

[www.friendsofsabbath.org](http://www.friendsofsabbath.org)

[www.hwalibrary.org](http://www.hwalibrary.org)

No limitation is placed upon reproduction of this document except that it must be reproduced in its entirety without modification or deletions. The publisher's name and address, copyright notice and this message must be included. It may be freely distributed but must be distributed without charge to the recipient.

Our purpose and desire is to foster Biblical, historical and related studies that strengthen the Church of God’s message & mission and provides further support to its traditional doctrinal positions.

**Other Articles in this series:**

* *Eden and Sanctuary Symbolism Chart*
* *Feast Day Typology in the New Testament (pt. 1)*
* *Feast Day Typology in the New Testament (pt. 2)*
* *Which Commandments do the Churches of God observe/teach and do not observe/teach? And why?*

**Introductory Remarks**

God’s Way of Life leading to the gift of eternal life includes a number of instructions or principles that includes the Commandments, developing the fruit of the spirit, beatitudes and such like. In other words, adopting the Way that is exemplified by the two trees: one is the tree of knowledge of good and evil leading to eternal death and the other the tree of life leading to eternal life.

This chart is based on Bible study notes dating back to 1981 titled *God’s Laws and Spiritual Requirements in Force Before Mount Sinai!* It proved to be one of the most interesting studies I have undertaken and was influenced by an article reprint I read by Herbert W Armstrong “Were the Ten Commandments in Force Before Moses?” *Plain Truth*, May 1956 wherein he stated:

“Every one of the Ten Commandments was in existence during the time of Adam. It was sin to break any one of them prior to the time of the law of Moses. The law of Moses, we know, didn't come until the time of Moses — 430 years after the time of Abraham. But the spiritual law has been in existence from Adam! … There it is. Every one of the Ten Commandments was in existence from creation. It was sin to break any of them between the time of Adam and Moses. What are you going to do about it?” (pp, 18, 22).

I resolved to investigate this further and to ascertain whether other commandments and biblical requirements were also referenced prior to Moses, in the book of Genesis. I picked up some clues here and there regarding tithing and clean/unclean meats, but my personal study proved very fruitful and demonstrated to me how consistent God is throughout His Word. This chart is the result of this study.

**God’s Eternal and Consistent Way of Life**

It is God Himself Who defines sin – one can find these definitions in Rom 5:12, 14; IJohn3:4; IIJohn 6; Rom 13:10; 7:6-8; 3:20-22; ICor 15:56. In effect it is falling short of the holiness and glory of God because the law and Biblical standards/requirements personify God and character - His way of love (IJohn 4:8).

Hos 6:7 and 8:1 appears to indicate that the Laws were given since Adam.[[1]](#footnote-1) As the Church of God and others have explained for a very long time, God is love which includes the structure of the Law and the development of the fruit of the spirit, the beatitudes and outgoing concern for others (which of its nature means having feelings and empathy for others) and so forth. In other words His way of life to develop holy, righteous character – to become like God.

And what is this way of life in summary but “to do well” vs “do not do well” (Gen 4:7).

Gradually, over time, people began to progressively do what they thought was right, corrupting His way (Gen 6:11-12. Cp Prov 21:2) but Noah was upright and walked in God’s way (Gen 6:8) and was also a preacher of righteousness (IIPet 2:5, 21. Prov 6:23; 16:25; Is 2:3). What is righteousness? Obedience to His commandments is a very important aspect of righteousness (Ps 119:172) and is mentioned also in Gen 7:1; 15:6; 18:23-28; 30:33; 38:26.

Enoch also walked in the ways of God (which must include His law as we have seen) according to Gen 5:24; Jude 1:14-15 (see also Deut 5:33; 8:6; Amos 3:3; Mic 4:2).

Then there is Abraham who obeyed all of God’s commandments added on to this also believed God deeply (ie had faith – deep belief is one aspect of faith and a future article may delve into this):

“Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.” (Gen 26:5)

Given the above truths, let us explore God’s consistency in the book of Genesis, in chart form.

**Chart. God’s Laws and Way of Life Before Moses**

| **Law or Spiritual Requirement** | **Scripture** | **OT Scripture** | **NT Scripture** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ten Commandments** | | | |
| **First (no other gods)** | “Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?” … So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.” (3:1, 6) | Ex 20:2-3 | Matt 4:10; Rom 6:16 |
| **Second (idolatry)** | “So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, “Put away the foreign gods that are among you and purify yourselves and change your garments.  Then let us arise and go up to Bethel, so that I may make there an altar to the God who answers me in the day of my distress and has been with me wherever I have gone.”  So they gave to Jacob all the foreign gods that they had, and the rings that were in their ears. Jacob hid them under the terebinth tree that was near Shechem.” (35:2-4)  “Anyone with whom you find your gods shall not live. In the presence of our kinsmen point out what I have that is yours, and take it.” Now Jacob did not know that Rachel had stolen them.  And she said to her father, “Let not my lord be angry that I cannot rise before you, for the way of women is upon me.” So he searched but did not find the household gods.” (31:32, 35) | Ex 20:4-6  Josh 24:2 | Acts 15:20 |
| **Third (blasphemy)** | “You shall not do **as they do in the land of Egypt, where you lived**, and you shall not do as they do in the land of Canaan, to which I am bringing you. You shall not walk in their statutes.” (Lev 18:3)  “You shall not give any of your children to offer them to Molech, and so profane the name of your God: I am the LORD.” (Lev 18:21)  “(for the people of the land, **who were before you, did all of these abominations**, so that the land became unclean)” (Lev 18:27) | Ex 20:7 | Matt 5:33-37 |
| **Fourth (Sabbath)[[2]](#footnote-2)** | “And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done.  So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.” (2:2-3)  “For in seven days I will send rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground." (7:4)  “He waited another seven days, and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark.  Then he waited another seven days and sent forth the dove, and she did not return to him anymore.” (8:10, 12)  “Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." (29:27) | Ex 20:8-11 | Luke 4:16; 23:55-56; Act 17:1-2; 18:4; Heb 4:9; IJohn 2:6 |
| **Fifth (dishonoring a parent)** | “And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father and told his two brothers outside.  Then Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid it on both their shoulders, and walked backward and covered the nakedness of their father. Their faces were turned backward, and they did not see their father's nakedness.” (9:22-23)  “For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what he has promised him." (18:19)  “And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." And he said to him, "Here I am."” (37:13) | Ex 20:12  Gen 22:7-8 | Matt 15:4-9; Eph 6:1-3 |
| **Sixth (murder)** | “The LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen?  If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it.”  Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him.” (4:6-8)  “And for your lifeblood I will require a reckoning: from every beast I will require it and from man. From his fellow man I will require a reckoning for the life of man.  “Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.” (9:5-6) | Ex 20:13 | Matt 15:21-22 |
| **Seventh (adultery and fornication)** | “And when the princes of Pharaoh saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh. And the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house.  And for her sake he dealt well with Abram; and he had sheep, oxen, male donkeys, male servants, female servants, female donkeys, and camels.  But the LORD afflicted Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai, Abram's wife.  So Pharaoh called Abram and said, “What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife?  Why did you say, ‘She is my sister,’ so that I took her for my wife? Now then, here is your wife; take her, and go.”” (12:15-19)  “So he left all that he had in Joseph's charge, and because of him he had no concern about anything but the food he ate. Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance.  And after a time his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, "Lie with me." (39:6-7)  “Then Abimelech called Abraham and said to him, "What have you done to us? And how have I sinned against you, that you have brought on me and my kingdom a great sin? You have done to me things that ought not to be done."  Abimelech said, "What is this you have done to us? One of the people might easily have lain with your wife, and you would have brought guilt upon us."  So Abimelech warned all the people, saying, "Whoever touches this man or his wife shall surely be put to death."” (20:9-11)  "Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might, and the firstfruits of my strength, preeminent in dignity and preeminent in power.  Unstable as water, you shall not have preeminence, because you went up to your father's bed; then you defiled it—he went up to my couch!” (49:3-4) | Ex 20:14 | Matt 15:27-28; 19:18 |
| **Eighth (stealing)** | “So my honesty will answer for me later, when you come to look into my wages with you. Every one that is not speckled and spotted among the goats and black among the lambs, if found with me, shall be counted stolen.”  (30:33) | Ex 20:15 | Matt 19:18; Eph 4:28 |
| **Ninth (lies)** | “Then the LORD said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” He said, “I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?”  And the LORD said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground.” (4:9-10)  “and when the Egyptians see you, they will say, ‘This is his wife.’ Then they will kill me, but they will let you live.  Say you are my sister, that it may go well with me because of you, and that my life may be spared for your sake.”” (12:12-13)  “And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, “She is my sister.” And Abimelech king of Gerar sent and took Sarah.  But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night and said to him, “Behold, you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is a man's wife.”” (20:2-3)  “So Isaac settled in Gerar.  When the men of the place asked him about his wife, he said, “She is my sister,” for he feared to say, “My wife,” thinking, “lest the men of the place should kill me because of Rebekah,” because she was attractive in appearance.” (20:6-7) | Ex 20:16 | Matt 19:18; Eph 4:25 |
| **Tenth (coveting and lust)** | “So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.” (3:6)  “the sons of God saw that the daughters of man were attractive. And they took as their wives any they chose.” (6:2)  “But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peacefully to him.  His brothers said to him, "Are you indeed to reign over us? Or are you indeed to rule over us?" So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words.” (37:4, 8)  “And after a time his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, “Lie with me.”” (39:7) | Ex 20:17; 18:21 | Rom 1:29; Gal 5:19-21 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Holy Days or proto-Holy Days****[[3]](#footnote-3)** | | | |
| **Passover** | “And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.)” (14:18).  See Ex 12:40-41; Gen 15:13-16; John 8:56  (cp Isaac as a type of Christ in Gen 22:4-12; Heb 11:17-19 | Lev 23:5; Ex 12 | John 13 etc |
| **Unleavened Bread** | “and Jacob offered a sacrifice in the hill country and called his kinsmen to eat bread. They ate bread and spent the night in the hill country.” (31:54)  “and said, “My lords, please turn aside to your servant's house and spend the night and wash your feet. Then you may rise up early and go on your way.” They said, “No; we will spend the night in the town square.”  But he pressed them strongly; so they turned aside to him and entered his house. And he made them a feast and baked unleavened bread, and they ate.” (19:2-3)[[4]](#footnote-4) | Lev 23:6-8 | Acts 12:3; ICor 5:6-8 |
| **Pentecost** | “In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground” (4:3) (NB: Heb may be rendered “at the end of (counting) of days” which may refer to an early Pentecost. | Lev 23:9-22 | Acts 2 |
| **Trumpets** | Job 38:7? | Lev 23:23-25 | ? |
| **Atonement** | ? | Lev 23:26-32 | Acts 27:9 |
| **Tabernacles** | “Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.”  So Laban gathered together all the people of the place and made a feast.  Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.”  Jacob did so, and completed her week. Then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel to be his wife.” (29:21-22, 27-28)  “But Jacob journeyed to Succoth, and built himself a house and made booths for his livestock. Therefore the name of the place is called Succoth.” (33:17. Cp. Heb 11:9) | Lev 23:33-43 | John 7 |
| **Last Great Day** | Gen 17:9-14 (does circumcision which is on the 8th day picture the Last Great Day when all are truly circumcised spiritually?) | Lev 23:39 | “For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.” (Heb 11:10)  John 7:37 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Other Laws and Requirements**  **“Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.” (Gen 26:5)** | | | |
| **Abstaining from blood** | “Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. And as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything.  But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood.” (9:3-4) | Lev 17:10-11 | Acts 15:28-29 |
| **Altar** | “Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and took some of every clean animal and some of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar.” (8:20)  “Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.  From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD.” (12:7-8)  “to the place where he had made an altar at the first. And there Abram called upon the name of the LORD.  So Abram moved his tent and came and settled by the oaks of Mamre, which are at Hebron, and there he built an altar to the LORD.” (13:4, 18)  “When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood.” (22:9)  “So he built an altar there and called upon the name of the LORD and pitched his tent there. And there Isaac's servants dug a well.” (26:25) | Ex 20:24 | We come before the altar of God today |
| **Anointing with oil** | “So early in the morning Jacob took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it.” (28:18)  “I am the God of Bethel, where you anointed a pillar and made a vow to me. Now arise, go out from this land and return to the land of your kindred.’” (31:13)  “And Jacob set up a pillar in the place where he had spoken with him, a pillar of stone. He poured out a drink offering on it and poured oil on it.” (35:14) | Ex 28:41; 40:15; Lev 8:21; ISam 16:13; Ps 105:15 | Mark 6:13; Luke 4:18; James 5:14  Spiritual anointing too |
| **Baptism?** | “Then Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech, and also healed his wife and female slaves so that they bore children.” (20:17) | Ex 40:30-32; Lev 14:7-9; 15:10; IIKings 5:8-10 | Rom 6:3-9; ICor 10:1-2; Titus 3:5; IPet 3:20-21 |
| **Becoming perfect/blameless** | “When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless” (17:1) | Deut 18:13; Ps 15:2-3 | Matt 5:48; Phil 2:14-16; Heb 10:14 |
| **Birthright** | “Jacob said, “Sell me your birthright now.”  Esau said, “I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?”  Jacob said, “Swear to me now.” So he swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob.  Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.” (25:31-34)  “Jacob said to his father, “I am Esau your firstborn. I have done as you told me; now sit up and eat of my game, that your soul may bless me.”  But Isaac said to his son, “How is it that you have found it so quickly, my son?” He answered, “Because the LORD your God granted me success.”  Then Isaac said to Jacob, “Please come near, that I may feel you, my son, to know whether you are really my son Esau or not.”  So Jacob went near to Isaac his father, who felt him and said, “The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau.”  And he did not recognize him, because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau's hands. So he blessed him.  He said, “Are you really my son Esau?” He answered, “I am.”  Then he said, “Bring it near to me, that I may eat of my son's game and bless you.” So he brought it near to him, and he ate; and he brought him wine, and he drank.  Then his father Isaac said to him, “Come near and kiss me, my son.”  So he came near and kissed him. And Isaac smelled the smell of his garments and blessed him and said, “See, the smell of my son is as the smell of a field that the LORD has blessed!  May God give you of the dew of heaven and of the fatness of the earth and plenty of grain and wine.  Let peoples serve you, and nations bow down to you. Be lord over your brothers, and may your mother's sons bow down to you. Cursed be everyone who curses you, and blessed be everyone who blesses you!” (27:19-29)  “And they sat before him, the firstborn according to his birthright and the youngest according to his youth. And the men looked at one another in amazement.” (43:33)  “the angel who has redeemed me from all evil, bless the boys; and in them let my name be carried on, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth.”  When Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand on the head of Ephraim, it displeased him, and he took his father's hand to move it from Ephraim's head to Manasseh's head.  And Joseph said to his father, “Not this way, my father; since this one is the firstborn, put your right hand on his head.”  But his father refused and said, “I know, my son, I know. He also shall become a people, and he also shall be great. Nevertheless, his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his offspring shall become a multitude of nations.”  So he blessed them that day, saying, “By you Israel will pronounce blessings, saying, ‘God make you as Ephraim and as Manasseh.’” Thus he put Ephraim before Manasseh.” (48:16-20) | Deut 21:16-17 | Spiritual birthright too |
| **Blessings** | “And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.” (12:2)  “And he did not recognize him, because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau's hands. So he blessed him.” (27:23)  “Then Isaac called Jacob and blessed him and directed him, “You must not take a wife from the Canaanite women.” (28:1)  “And he blessed Joseph and said, “The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, the God who has been my shepherd all my life long to this day” (48:15) | Ex 39:43; Jud 5:9 | IPet 4:14 |
| **Capital punishment** | “And for your lifeblood I will require a reckoning: from every beast I will require it and from man. From his fellow man I will require a reckoning for the life of man.  “Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.” (9:5-6) | Ex 12:12-15, 23; Lev 24:17-21; Num 35:30-31 | Matt 15:4; Rom 13:3-4 |
| **Care for animals** | “And he said, Let us take our journey, and let us go, and I will go before thee.  And he said unto him, My lord knoweth that the children *are* tender, and the flocks and herds with young *are* with me: and if men should overdrive them one day, all the flock will die.  Let my lord, I pray thee, pass over before his servant: and I will lead on softly, according as the cattle that goeth before me and the children be able to endure, until I come unto my lord unto Seir.” (33:12-14) | Ex 23:12; Deut 22:10; 25:4; Prov 27:23; 12:10; (Hos 2:18) [cp Job 5:23; Is 65:25; Ezek 34:25; Is 35:9; Lev 26:6]; (Is 11:6-9) [cp Job 5:22-23; Hos 2:18]; (Gen 1:28-30) [see also Job 38:39-41; 39:4, 8, 30; 40:15, 20; Ps 104:14; 145:15-16; 147:9]; Ps 50:10-11 | Matt 6:35-26; 12:11-12; Mark 1:13 |
| **Ceremonial Cleansing & Purifying** | “So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, “Put away the foreign gods that are among you and purify yourselves and change your garments.” (35:2) | Ex 19:10; Num 8:5-7; Ps 51:7 | Acts 21:23-26; James 4:8; Titus 3:5; Heb 10:19-22; IJohn 1:9 |
| **Child-rearing** | “For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what he has promised him.” (18:19)  See 28:1 | Deut 4:9-10; 6:6-7; 11:19; Prov 22:6 | Eph 6:1-4; Col 3:20-21; ITim 3:4-5 |
| **Circumcision** | “And God said to Abraham, “As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations.  This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised.  You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you.  He who is eight days old among you shall be circumcised. Every male throughout your generations, whether born in your house or bought with your money from any foreigner who is not of your offspring,  both he who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money, shall surely be circumcised. So shall my covenant be in your flesh an everlasting covenant.  Any uncircumcised male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin shall be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant.” (17:9-14) | Ex 12:48  Lev 12:3 | Luke 2:21 |
| **Clean and unclean meats** | "Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and his mate, and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and his mate,  and seven pairs of the birds of the heavens also, male and female, to keep their offspring alive on the face of all the earth.” (7:2-3)  “Of clean animals, and of animals that are not clean, and of birds, and of everything that creeps on the ground,  two and two, male and female, went into the ark with Noah, as God had commanded Noah.” (7:8-9) | Lev 11  Deut 14 | Matt 5:17-18; Rom 7:12; ITim 4:1-5 |
| **Covenant-making** | “On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates” (15:18)  “When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless,  that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly.” (17:1-2)  “So Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abimelech, and the two men made a covenant.  “Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock apart.  And Abimelech said to Abraham, “What is the meaning of these seven ewe lambs that you have set apart?”  He said, “These seven ewe lambs you will take from my hand, that this may be a witness for me that I dug this well.”  Therefore that place was called Beersheba, because there both of them swore an oath.  So they made a covenant at Beersheba. Then Abimelech and Phicol the commander of his army rose up and returned to the land of the Philistines.” (21:27-32) | Ex 34:27; 19:5. | Heb 9:15-28 |
| **Cursings** | “The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life …  And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life” (3:14, 17)  “And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand.” (4:11)  “And when the LORD smelled the pleasing aroma, the LORD said in his heart, "I will never again curse the ground because of man, for the intention of man's heart is evil from his youth. Neither will I ever again strike down every living creature as I have done.” (8:21)  “I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." (12:3)  “Let peoples serve you, and nations bow down to you. Be lord over your brothers, and may your mother's sons bow down to you. Cursed be everyone who curses you, and blessed be everyone who blesses you!" (27:29)  9:25 | Num 5:23; Deut 27:15-26; 28:16; Prov 3:33; Mal 2:2; 3:9 | Matt 15:4; Luke 6:28; Rom 3:14; 12:14; ICor 4:12; Gal 3:13; Col 3:8; IIThess 1:5-10 |
| **Disfellowshipping** | “In the abundance of your trade you were filled with violence in your midst, and you sinned; so I cast you as a profane thing from the mountain of God, and I destroyed you, O guardian cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.” (Ezek 28:16)  “therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken.  He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.” (Gen 3:23-24)  See 4:15-16 | Ex 12:19; Num 5:1-2; 12:15; 19:20; Ezek 28:17 | Matt 18:17; John 9:22; ICor 5:9-11; IIThess 3:14 |
| **Dowry** | “And the servant brought out jewelry of silver and of gold, and garments, and gave them to Rebekah. He also gave to her brother and to her mother costly ornaments.” (24:53)  “These twenty years I have been in your house. I served you fourteen years for your two daughters, and six years for your flock, and you have changed my wages ten times.” (31:41)  “Shechem also said to her father and to her brothers, “Let me find favor in your eyes, and whatever you say to me I will give.  Ask me for as great a bride-price and gift as you will, and I will give whatever you say to me. Only give me the young woman to be my wife.”” (34:11-12) | Cp 29:21-24; Ex 22:16-17; ISam 18:25; IKings 9:16 | A dowry as such is not given a mention in the NT. However, purchasing and redemption as payment is (Matt 20:28; Acts 20:28; I Pet 1:18; I Cor 6:20; Eph 1:14; I Tim 2:6; Titus 2:14; Rev 5:9; etc.) |
| **Drink offerings** | “And Jacob set up a pillar in the place where he had spoken with him, a pillar of stone. He poured out a drink offering on it and poured oil on it.” (35:14) | Ex 29:40  Lev 23:13  Cp symbolism in Gen 4:9-10 | Spiritual offerings today |
| **Drunkenness** | “He drank of the wine and became drunk and lay uncovered in his tent.” (9:21) | Prov 20:1; Is 5:11-12; | ICor 5:11; Gal 5:19-21; Eph 5:18; Titus 2:3; ITim 3:8 |
| **Fasting** | “And Sarah died at Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan, and Abraham went in to mourn for Sarah and to weep for her.” (23:2)?  “Then Jacob tore his garments and put sackcloth on his loins and mourned for his son many days.” (37:34)? | Ex 34:28; Lev 23:27; Est 4:3; Is 58:6 | Matt 6:16-24 |
| **Fornication** | “The sons of Jacob had come in from the field as soon as they heard of it, and the men were indignant and very angry, because he had done an outrageous thing in Israel by lying with Jacob's daughter, for such a thing must not be done.” (34:7) | Ex 22:16-17; Num 25:1-3 | ICor 7:8-9; Eph 5:3 |
| **Hatred** | “Now Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing with which his father had blessed him, and Esau said to himself, “The days of mourning for my father are approaching; then I will kill my brother Jacob.” (27:41)  See 49:23 | Lev 19:27 |  |
| **Healing** | “Now Sarai was barren; she had no child.” (11:30)  **“**The LORD visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did to Sarah as he had promised.  And Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him.” (21:1-2)  “Then Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech, and also healed his wife and female slaves so that they bore children” (20:17)  25:21; 29:31-32; 30:1-2, 22-23 | Ex 15:26; Ps 147:2; Is 53:5 | Acts 10:38; Matt 14:14; James 5:15 |
| **Hospitality** | “And the LORD appeared to him by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the door of his tent in the heat of the day.  He lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth  and said, “O Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant.  Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree,  while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.”  And Abraham went quickly into the tent to Sarah and said, “Quick! Three seahs of fine flour! Knead it, and make cakes.”  And Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to a young man, who prepared it quickly.  Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them. And he stood by them under the tree while they ate.” (18:1-8) | Lev 19:33-34; Deut 10:18-19 | Acts 16:14-15; Heb 13:2 |
| **Inheritance** | “Then Rachel and Leah answered and said to him, "Is there any portion or inheritance left to us in our father's house?  Are we not regarded by him as foreigners? For he has sold us, and he has indeed devoured our money.  All the wealth that God has taken away from our father belongs to us and to our children. Now then, whatever God has said to you, do." (31:14-16) | Deut 21:15-17; Job 42:15; Prov 11:29; 13:21; 19:14 | Luke 12:13-15 |
| **Judging righteously** | “For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what he has promised him.” (18:19) | Deut 16:19; Lev 19:15; Ps 82:3; Is 1:17 | Luke 11:42; John 7:24 |
| **Land Sabbath?** | “When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth.” (4:12) | Ex 23:10-11 |  |
| **Laying on of hands** | “And Israel stretched out his right hand and laid it on the head of Ephraim, who was the younger, and his left hand on the head of Manasseh, crossing his hands (for Manasseh was the firstborn).  And he blessed Joseph and said, “The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, the God who has been my shepherd all my life long to this day,” (48:15-16) | Lev 3:2; Num 27:23; Deut 34:9 | Luke 4:40; Acts 6:6; ITim 5:22 |
| **Making Restitution** | “These twenty years I have been with you. Your ewes and your female goats have not miscarried, and I have not eaten the rams of your flocks.  What was torn by wild beasts I did not bring to you. I bore the loss of it myself. From my hand you required it, whether stolen by day or stolen by night.  There I was: by day the heat consumed me, and the cold by night, and my sleep fled from my eyes.” (31:38-40) | Ex 22:11-14; Lev 6:2-5 | Luke 19:7-9 |
| **Marriage between believers and non-believers** | “They said to them, “We cannot do this thing, to give our sister to one who is uncircumcised, for that would be a disgrace to us.  Only on this condition will we agree with you—that you will become as we are by every male among you being circumcised.” (34:14-15) | Deut 7:3-4 | ICor 7:39; IICor 6:14 |
| **Marrying a dead brother’s wife** | “Then Judah said to Onan, “Go in to your brother's wife and perform the duty of a brother-in-law to her, and raise up offspring for your brother.”” (38:8) | Deut 25:5-6; Ruth 3:12-4:10 |  |
| **Meditation** | “And Isaac went out to meditate in the field toward evening. And he lifted up his eyes and saw, and behold, there were camels coming.” (24:63) | Jos 1:8; Ps 1:2; 5:8 | Phil 4:8 |
| **Men head of the family** | “To the woman he said, “I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you.” (3:16)  “For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what he has promised him.” (18:19) | Num 13:2; Josh 24:15; Prov 4:1; 6:20 | ICor 11:3; Eph 5:22-24 |
| **Monogamy** | “And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.  Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.”  Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.  And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.” (2:22-25)  “So Pharaoh called Abram and said, “What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife?” (12:18)  “Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. She had a female Egyptian servant whose name was Hagar.” (16:1)  See 28:1 | Ex 20:17; Deut 17:17; 24:1-2 | Matt 19:3-6, 19; ICor 7:2; ITim 3:2 |
| **Oaths** | ““Now therefore swear to me here by God that you will not deal falsely with me or with my descendants or with my posterity, but as I have dealt kindly with you, so you will deal with me and with the land where you have sojourned.”  And Abraham said, “I will swear.”” (21:23-24)  “And Abraham said to his servant, the oldest of his household, who had charge of all that he had, “Put your hand under my thigh,  that I may make you swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and God of the earth, that you will not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell,  but will go to my country and to my kindred, and take a wife for my son Isaac.”” (24:2-4)  “But he said to me, ‘The LORD, before whom I have walked, will send his angel with you and prosper your way. You shall take a wife for my son from my clan and from my father's house.  Then you will be free from my oath, when you come to my clan. And if they will not give her to you, you will be free from my oath.’” (24:40-41)  “They said, “We see plainly that the LORD has been with you. So we said, let there be a sworn pact between us, between you and us, and let us make a covenant with you” (26:28). | Ex 22:11; Num 5:19. | Matt 5:34; IICor 1:23; Gal 1:20 |
| **Prayer** | “From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD.”  13:4; 15:2-3; 18:22-25; 20:17; 21:33; 24:12-15, 26-27; 26:25; 28:20-22 | Num 11:2; IIChron 6:21 | Eph 6:18; IJohn 5:14-15 |
| **Preaching and warning ministry** | “if he did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald[[5]](#footnote-5) of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly” (IIPet 2:5). | Lev 10:11; Deut 33:10; Neh 6:7. | Heb 4:2, 6. |
| **Priesthood** | “And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.)  And he blessed him and said, “Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth;  and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!” And Abram gave him a tenth of everything.” (14:18-20)  “The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind, “You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.”” (Ps 110:4) | Lev 18:21-29; Ex 28:1 (cp Gen 27:15); Ex 28:2-4, 39; 35:19; 39:1; Lev 10:6; 21:10 | Heb 7:11-28 |
| **Prostitution** | “But they said, “Should he treat our sister like a prostitute?”” (34:31)  “When Judah saw her, he thought she was a prostitute, for she had covered her face …  About three months later Judah was told, “Tamar your daughter-in-law has been immoral. Moreover, she is pregnant by immorality.” And Judah said, “Bring her out, and let her be burned.” (38:15, 24) | Lev 19:29; 21:7-9, 14; Joel 3:3 | ICor 6:9, 15-16 |
| **Sacrifices** | “and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering,  but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell.”” (4:4-5)[[6]](#footnote-6)  “Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and took some of every clean animal and some of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar.  And when the LORD smelled the pleasing aroma, the LORD said in his heart, “I will never again curse the ground because of man, for the intention of man's heart is evil from his youth. Neither will I ever again strike down every living creature as I have done.” (8:20-21)  “He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.”  And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half.” (15:9-10)  “He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.”  So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him.  And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son.” (22:2-3, 13) |  | Acts 21:26  Spiritual sacrifices today |
| **Servants** | “When Abram heard that his kinsman had been taken captive, he led forth his trained men, born in his house, 318 of them, and went in pursuit as far as Dan.  And he divided his forces against them by night, he and his servants, and defeated them and pursued them to Hobah, north of Damascus.” (14:14-15)  “So he said, “I am Abraham's servant.  The LORD has greatly blessed my master, and he has become great. He has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male servants and female servants, camels and donkeys.” (24:34-35)  ‘Say to Joseph, “Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.”’ And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him.  His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, “Behold, we are your servants.” (50:17-18) | Ex 22:1-3; Lev 24:42-46; Deut 24:14-15; Jer. 22:13 | Eph. 6:9; Col. 4: 1 |
| **Seventh year release from debt** | “Then Laban said to Jacob, “Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?” …  Jacob loved Rachel. And he said, “I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.” …  So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her …  Laban said, “It is not so done in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn.  Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.”  (Laban gave his female servant Bilhah to his daughter Rachel to be her servant.)” (29:15, 18, 20, 26-28) | Deut 15:1-2 | Cp Matt 6:12; 18:32; |
| **Sexual perversions** | “Then the LORD said, “Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave,  I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know.” (18:20-21) | Lev 18:6-24; IChron 5:1 | Rom 1:26-27; ICor 6:9-10; ITim 1:9-10; Jude 1:7 |
| **Tithing** | “And he blessed him and said, “Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!” And Abram gave him a tenth of everything.” (14:19-20) | Lev 27:30-32 | Matt 23:23; Heb 7:1-28 |
| **Uncleanness (woman’s discharge)** | “And she said to her father, “Let not my lord be angry that I cannot rise before you, for the way of women is upon me.” So he searched but did not find the household gods.” (31:15) | Lev 15:19 | Matt 9:20-22 |
| **Vow obligations** | “Then Jacob made a vow, saying, “If God will be with me and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear,  so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God,  and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house. And of all that you give me I will give a full tenth to you.” (28:20-22)  “I am the God of Bethel, where you anointed a pillar and made a vow to me. Now arise, go out from this land and return to the land of your kindred.’” (31:13) | Deut 23:21-23; Num 30:32; Jonah 2:9 | Acts 18:18 |
| **Widows** | “But Er, Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD put him to death.  Then Judah said to Onan, “Go in to your brother's wife and perform the duty of a brother-in-law to her, and raise up offspring for your brother.”” (38:7-9) | Deut 10:18; 25:5-10; | Acts 6:1; ITim 5:3-10; James 1:27 |
| **Witchcraft and Spiritism** | “So in the morning his spirit was troubled, and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt and all its wise men. Pharaoh told them his dreams, but there was none who could interpret them to Pharaoh.” (41:8) | Ex 22:18; Lev 19:26 |  |
| **Witnesses** | “”Come now, let us make a covenant, you and I. And let it be a witness between you and me.”  So Jacob took a stone and set it up as a pillar.  And Jacob said to his kinsmen, “Gather stones.” And they took stones and made a heap, and they ate there by the heap.  Laban called it Jegar-sahadutha, but Jacob called it Galeed.  Laban said, “This heap is a witness between you and me today.” Therefore he named it Galeed,”” (31:44-48) | Deut 31:19, 21, 26; Ps 102:18  Deut 19:15; 17:16 | John 8:17 |

**Concluding Remarks**

xxxxx

As I state at the ending of the article God’s Law and Way of Life Before Moses “This clearly demonstrates that God is consistent in His holiness and requirements, after all, He states "**For I the LORD do not change**; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.” Mal 3:6)”

**References and Additional Reading**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Armstrong, GT (1980) | *Are Christians “Under the Law”?* Church of God, International, USA. |
| Armstrong, GT (1981) | *The Ten Commandments.* Church of God, International. USA. |
| Armstrong, GT (1992) | *The New Covenant. Does It Do Away With God’s Law?* Church of God, International, USA. |
| Armstrong, HW (1956) | “Were the Ten Commandments in Force Before Moses?” *Plain Truth*, May, pp. 17-20, 22. |
| Armstrong, HW (1981) | “Truth about Circumcision,” in *Missing Dimension in Sex*, pp. 157-58. Pasadena, California. |
| Bahnsen, GL (1984) | *Theonomy in Christian Ethics.* The Craig Press, Nutley, NJ. |
| Bullinger, EW (1909) | *The Companion Bible*. Oxford University Press, London. |
| Cole, RC (1956) | “The New Covenant. Does it Abolish God’s Law?” *Plain Truth*, April, pp. 9-12. |
| Davidson, R (2015) | “Earth’s First Sanctuary: Genesis 1-3 and Parallel Creation Accounts,” *Andrews University Seminary Studies*, Vol. 53, No. 1, pp. 65-89. |
| Fennell, W (1994)  Fennell, J | *Bible Law Index of the Laws, Statutes and Judgments of God.* Weisman Publications, Apple Valley, MN. |
| Ingman, TR (1962) | *The World Under God’s Law.* USA. |
| Kaiser, WC (1983) | *Toward Old Testament Ethics.* Academie Books, Grand Rapids. MI. |
| Morales, LM (2015 | *Who shall ascend the mountain of the Lord? A Biblical theology of the book of Leviticus*. InterVarsity Press, Downers Grove, IL. |
| Nickels, RC (1996) | *A Primer on Biblical Law.* Giving & Sharing, Neck City, MO. |
| Rand, H (1943) | *Digest of the Divine Law.* Destiny Publishers, Merrimac, MA. |
| Raymond, PM (19??) | *Biblical Law. Index of the Laws, Statutes and Judgments of God. As Compiled from the Holy Scriptures (KJV).* Institute for Theonomic Reformation, USA. |
| Rushdoony, RJ (1973) | *The Institutes of Biblical Law.* The Chalcedon Foundation, Craig Press, Nutley, NJ. |
| Snook, JF (1977) | *To Heal the Nation.* America’s Promise, USA. |
| United Church of God (2007) | *The New Covenant. Does it Abolish God’s Law?* (“Did the Ten Commandments Exist Before Moses?” (box insert, pp. 28-29)). United Church of God, Cincinnati, OH. |
| Wright, CJH (1983) | *An Eye For An Eye. The Place of Old Testament Ethics Today.* Intervarsity Press, Downers Gove, Ill. |
| Wright, CJH (2004) | *Old Testament Ethics for the People of God.* Inter-Varsity Press, Leicester, England. |

1. Other Scriptures that apply in this regard are Gen 2:9, 17; Deut 30:19; 32:46-47; Prov 11:19; 12:28; Gen 3:3-5; Prov 16:25; Deut 12:8; 13:7, 18, 22-23; Eph 2:1; Luke 9:60 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The notes in Bullinger's *Companion Bible* reveals that the Sabbath is referred to in Genesis chapters 7 and 8:

   Genesis 7:

   "Verse:4 seven days. The number of spiritual perfection (App-10). All the Flood dates are Sabbaths except one (Genesis 8:5)."

   Genesis 8:

   "Verse 10 seven = the seven. Another Sabbath, 18th day of 11th month."

   "Verse 12 seven. Saturday, 25th day of 11th month." [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. “mo’adim which is the plural for mo’ed which is often “mistranslated as ‘seasons’, mo’ed refers most often (135 out of 160 times in the Pentateuch) to the ‘tent of meeting’” and the rest of the time (mostly) to the holy days or a synonym for them (L.M. Morales, *Who shall ascend the mountain of the Lord? A Biblical theology of the book of Leviticus*, p. 44). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Cp “Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son.” (Gen 18:14) *Strong’s Concordance* information on *appointed time*: “ H4150

   מוֹעָדָה    מֹעֵד    מוֹעֵד

   mô‛êd    mô‛êd    mô‛âdâh

   *mo-ade', mo-ade', mo-aw-daw'*

   From H3259; properly an *appointment*, that is, a fixed *time* or season; specifically a *festival*; conventionally a *year*; by implication, an *assembly* (as convened for a definite purpose); technically the *congregation*; by extension, the *place of meeting*; also a *signal* (as appointed beforehand): - appointed (sign, time), (place of, solemn) assembly, congregation, (set, solemn) feast, (appointed, due) season, solemn (-ity), synagogue, (set) time (appointed). Total KJV occurrences: 223.” [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. *Strong’s Concordance*: “G2783

   κήρυξ

   kērux

   kay'-roox

   From G2784; a herald, that is, of divine truth (especially of the gospel): - preacher.” [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Of interest are the observations by Richard Davidson: “In Genesis 4, just a few verses after the first sacrifice recorded in Gen 3:21, we have evidence that Cain and Abel were thoroughly instructed regarding the sacrificial system. Both Cain and Abel “brought” offerings to the Lord, but the narrative contrasts the two kinds of “gifts/offerings” (Heb. minchah) that were brought. Cain brought a bloodless offering from the fruit of the ground, while Abel brought an animal sacrifice (Gen 4:3-4). Although in the later Levitical system both first-fruit offerings and animal sacrifices were included (the minkhah is actually the term used for the “grain offering”; Lev 2), the foundational offering was the bloody sacrifice. As Heb 9:22 summarizes, “without the shedding of blood there was no remission of sin**.” The first fruits thank offerings were to be brought *in addition to* the foundational animal sacrifices.**

   **Genesis 4:3-4 appears to highlight the fact that Cain only brought the first fruit offering, but did not see the need to offer in addition an animal sacrifice showing his dependence upon the blood of the substitute, as God had made clear in Eden to Adam and Eve**. Abel, on the other hand, brought both. This nuance of the Hebrew original is captured in the NASB translation: “So it came about in the course of time that Cain brought an offering to the LORD of the fruit of the ground. Abel, *on his part also brought* of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and for his offering” (emphasis supplied).

   Genesis 4:3-4 does not indicate the location to which Cain and Abel brought their offerings, but this is probably implied in v. 7. Recent studies of this verse 42 provide evidence from the original Hebrew that the word khatta’t (which can either mean “sin” or “sin-offering”) should better be translated as “sin-offering” and not “sin” in this verse, and the word petakh (“door/ opening”) here refers to the cherubim-guarded door/gate of Paradise, where sinful humans were to bring their sacrifices, paralleling the numerous uses of petakh in the Torah describing the door of the tabernacle (Exod 29:4, 11, 32, 42; 33:9-10; etc.). In this verse, God is encouraging Cain to offer up an animal sacrifice for his sin at the eastern “door” of the Garden where the post-Fall sanctuary was located.” (Davidson, “Earth’s First Sanctuary,” 2015, pp. 78-79) [emphasis mine] [↑](#footnote-ref-6)