



Introduction

Wise laws for governing the nation of Israel.



Questions

1. What should happen to the price of land as the Year of Jubilee approaches?
2. What sort of property will not be returned to the original owner in the Year of Jubilee?
3. What is to happen at the Jubilee to a poor man who has sold himself?



Summary Points

- **v 1 to 7** Every seventh year the land should not be cultivated, to give the soil a rest
- **v 8 to 13** Every fiftieth year, in the Year of Jubilee (see information), everything returns to its original owner. They are not to sow or reap the land
- **v 14 to 17** The price of land is to be controlled by the number of years to the next Jubilee
- **v 18 to 22** They are promised that there will be enough harvest in the sixth year to provide food for three years
- **v 23 and 24** The Israelites are to regard the land as belonging to God
- **v 25 to 28** A kinsman may redeem a poor man's property meanwhile, but he will always get it back at the Jubilee
- **v 29 to 34** Details of sale and redemption of houses in walled cities are given
- **v 35 to 43** The poor are to be treated sympathetically
- **v 44 to 46** Instructions about slaves from other nations
- **v 47 to 55** Instructions about poor people who become servants of strangers or foreigners in the land

Timeline 1500 BC (see below)



Information

Year of Jubilee

The Year of Jubilee occurs every 50 years. It has a special impact on the ownership and management of land. The book of Leviticus tells us that servants will be freed and return to their own families and properties:

Leviticus 25 verses 8 to 13

When families become poor, they can sell property and land to support themselves. The law of the Year of Jubilee ensures that they eventually get their land back again. This law wisely prevents families from permanently losing their land. The amount of money they can raise by selling their land is controlled by the number of years to the next Jubilee, when they will get their land back again and have a fresh start.

We can see the wisdom of this law, which prevents rich, fortunate, families having large estates and poor, unfortunate, families having no land and no means of support.



? Answers to questions

Verses which answer the questions:

Q 1: v 16, Q 2: v 30, Q 3: v 39 to 41

Bible timeline

