

**Text: Deuteronomy 15:12-18**

**THE LAW CONCERNING BOND SERVANTS**

1. They cannot be made to serve more than 6 years

Deuteronomy 15:12-15

- a) A reminder
- b) To be practised
- c) Not just according to the letter of the law
- d) But in spirit as well
- e) Remembering how they were once upon a time slaves in Egypt

2. On the year of the Lord's Release

7<sup>th</sup> year

- a) They must be set free
- b) Their debts are cancelled/forgiven
- c) They are to be helped along the way in life (Deuteronomy 15:1-6)

**AN EXCEPTION TO THIS LAW**

Deuteronomy 15:16-18

1. Decision of the slave

- a) He chooses not to go away
- b) He loves the master and his household
- c) He has prospered with the master

2. A servant forever

- a) An awl was to be used to pierce the ear of the slave
- b) He has chosen to be a slave forever
- c) His worth: Double of a hired servant

3. The Lord's blessings pronounced and assured