

EYE FOR AN EYE TOOTH FOR A TOOTH

Exod. 21:24-25 *eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, bruise for bruise.*



This is a commonly misunderstood verse in the christian community. This verse does not mean or support retribution “if someone pokes out your eye you can poke out their eye”, it means simply that everything has a value on it and that value must be compensated. If you poke someones eye (on purpose) so that they are blind, you are responsible to compensate them for the value of that missing eye for the rest of their life. Meaning you would have to compensate them (financial or otherwise) for the problem you have created because of the injury. One could support that person with food, clothing, shelter, etc. for the rest of their life or pay an estimated cost of the loss of use of one eye for life. Today we call it "punitive" damage.

DASYD Ministry

Bible Commentary Jerry Hennig (Nov 27/16)