

What should be done if a son is adopted and then the birth-parents want him back?

185. If a man takes in his own home a young boy as a son and rears him, one may not bring claim for that adopted son.

What should happen to a boy who slaps his father?

195. If a son strike his father, his hands shall be hewn off.

How is the truth determined when one man brings an accusation against another?

2. If any one bring an accusation against a man, and the accused go to the river and leap into the river, if he sink in the river his accuser shall take possession of his house. But if the river prove that the accused is not guilty, and he escape unhurt, then he who had brought the accusation shall be put to death, while he who leaped into the river shall take possession of the house that had belonged to his accuser.

What happens if a man is unable to pay his debts?

117. If a man be in debt and is unable to pay his creditors, he shall sell his wife, son, or daughter, or bind them over to service. For three years they shall work in the houses of their purchaser or master; in the fourth year they shall be given their freedom.

What should be done to the carpenter who builds a house that falls and kills the owner?

229. If a builder builds a house for a man and does not make its construction sound, and the house which he has built collapses and causes the death of the owner of the house, the builder shall be put to death.

What should happen to a judge who changes his judgment after the case has been closed?

5. If a judge pronounce a judgment, render a decision, deliver a verdict duly signed and sealed and afterward alter his judgment, they shall call that judge to account for the alteration of the judgment which he had pronounced, and he shall pay twelve-fold the penalty which was in said judgment; and, in the assembly, they shall expel him from his seat of judgment, and he shall not return, and with the judges in a case he shall not take his seat.

What should happen if a man owes another a debt, but because of a storm or drought is not able to grow crops in that year to pay the debt?

48. If a man owe a debt and the river inundate his field and carry away the produce, or, through lack of water, grain have not grown in the field, in that year he shall not make any return of grain to the creditor, he shall alter his contract-tablet and he shall not pay the interest for that year.

What should happen to a lazy dam-keeper who allows the dam to break and fields to be flooded?

53. If any one be too lazy to keep his dam in proper condition, and does not so keep it; if then the dam break and all the fields be flooded, then shall he in whose dam the break occurred be sold for money, and the money shall replace the corn which he has caused to be ruined.

What should happen to a man who holds captive in his house another man who owes him a debt and while in the house the one who owes the debt dies?

115. If a man hold a debt of grain or money against a man, and he seize him for debt, and the one seized die in the house of him who seized him, that case has no penalty

When is it permissible for a wife to ask for a divorce from her husband?

142. If a woman hate her husband and say, "Thou shall not have me", they shall inquire into her antecedents for her defects; and if she have been a careful mistress and be without reproach and her husband have been going about and greatly belittling her, that woman has no blame. She shall receive her dowry and shall go to her father's house.