

Handout for “Drawing Lines”  
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Verses to ~~strike through~~ for mandating indiscriminate capital punishment, slavery, genocide, patriarchy and discrimination for physical differences (see p. 2 for moral principles to highlight):

*Indiscriminate capital punishment:* Genesis 9:6a; Exodus 21:12, 14-17, 29c; 22:17-19 [Eng. 22:18-20]; Leviticus 20:2, 4, 9-16, 27; 21:9; 24:14, 16-17, 21b; 27:29; Numbers 35:16c, 17c, 18c, 19, 21b, 21d, 27b, 30b, 31, 33b; Deuteronomy 13:5, 8b-11, 15-16; 17:5, 7, 12-13; 19:12b-13; 21:21-23b; 22:20-24, 25c; 24:7b, 16c; Psalm 137:8b-9. [ADD divine aid for warfare? 2 Sam 22:35-43/Ps 18:32-42; 2 Sam 23:6-7; Pss. 144:1-2]

*Slave laws and permissions:* Genesis 9:25, 26c, 27c; Exodus 21:2-11, 20-21, 26-27, 32; Leviticus 19:20-22; 25:44-46; 27:2-8; Deuteronomy 15:12, 16-17; Ephesians 6:5-8; Colossians 3:22-25; Titus 2:9-10; Philemon 8-21; 1 Peter 2:18-21a.

*Justifications for genocide:* Leviticus 18:24-25, 27; 20:23b-24a; Numbers 31:1-3, 15-18; 33:52-53, 55; Deuteronomy 7:2b, 16a; 20:11, 13-18; 25:17-19; Matthew 27:24c-25; John 8:44; 1 Thessalonians 2:14c-16.

*Patriarchy and sexual double standards:* Genesis 3:16; Exodus 22:15-16 [Eng 22:16-17]; Leviticus 12:5; 18:22; 20:13; 21:7a-b, 13-15; Numbers 5:11-31; 30:3-16; Deuteronomy 21:10-14; 22:28-29; 24:1-4; 25:12; Sira 25:24-26; Romans 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 11:3, 7-10; 14:33b-35; Ephesians 5:22-24; Colossians 3:18; 1 Timothy 2:11-15; Titus 2:5c (“submissive to their husbands”); 1 Peter 3:1-6, 7c (“as the weaker vessel”)

*Stigmatizing diseased or disabled bodies:* Leviticus 13:45-46; 21:17-21, 23; 22:4a.

**In canonical order:**

Genesis 3:16; 9:6a, 25, 26c, 27c.

Exodus 21:2-12, 14-17, 20-21, 26-27, 29c, 32; 22:15-19 [Eng. 22:16-20].

Leviticus 12:5; 13:45-46; 18:22, 24-25, 27; 19:20-22; 20:2, 4, 9-16, 23b-24a, 27; 21:7a-b, 9, 13-15, 17-21, 23; 22:4a; 24:14, 16-17, 21b; 25:44-46; 27:2-8, 29.

Numbers 5:11-31; 30:3-16; 31:1-3, 15-18; 33:52-53, 55; 35:16c, 17c, 18c, 19, 21b, 21d, 27b, 30b, 31, 33b.

Deuteronomy 7:2b, 16a; 13:5, 8b-11, 15-16; 15:12, 16-17; 17:5, 7, 12-13; 19:12b-13; 20:11, 13-18; 21:10-14, 21-23b; 22:20-24, 25c, 28-29; 24:1-4, 7b, 16c; 25:12, 17-19.

Psalm 137:8b-9

Sira 25:24-26

Matthew 27:24c-25

John 8:44

Romans 1:26-27

1 Corinthians 11:3, 7-10; 14:33b-35.

Ephesians 5:22-24; 6:5-8

Colossians 3:18, 22-25

1 Thessalonians 2:14c-16

1 Timothy 2:11-15

Titus 2:5c (“submissive to their husbands”), 9-10

Philemon 8-21

1 Peter 2:18-21a; 3:1-6, 7c (“as the weaker vessel”)

See further: “Drawing Lines: A Suggestion for Addressing the Moral Problem of Reproducing Immoral Biblical Texts in Commentaries and Bibles” (2019), <https://surface.syr.edu/rel/110/>.

Moral mandates in the Bible to **boldface**, underline, **highlight**, or **rubricate**:  
(many people have their favorite bible verses; these are the most widely cited moral principles)

*Love commandment and variants*: Leviticus 19:18, 33-34; Deuteronomy 10:19; Matthew 5:44; Luke 6:27-28, 35a; John 13:34, 15:12, 15:17; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13; James 2:8

*Morality*: Exodus 20:12-17; 23:1-9; Leviticus 19:11-18; Deuteronomy 5:16-21

*Justice, freedom, equality*: Leviticus 19:33-34, 35-36a; 25:10b; Deuteronomy 27:19; Psalm 82:3-4; Isaiah 1:17; 45:8; 61:1-2; Jeremiah 22:3; Micah 6:5; Amos 5:24; Zechariah 7:9-10; Matthew 7:1, 12; Luke 6:36-38; Galatians 3:28

*Care for the poor and marginalized*: Exodus 20:9-10; 23:10-12; Leviticus 19:9-10, 35-36a; 23:22; Deuteronomy 5:13-15; 24:14-17, 19-21; Proverbs 29:7; Matthew 5:3-11; 7:12; Luke 6:20-26, 31; James 2:14-18

*Environmental ethic of land/earth/people belonging to God*: Exodus 19:5c; Leviticus 25:10:b “the land is mine,” 23; Deuteronomy 10:14; Psalms 24:10, 50:12b, 89:11; 1 Corinthians 10:26

**In canonical order:**

Exodus 19:5c; 20:9-10, 12-17; 23:1-9, 23:10-12

Leviticus 19:9-18, 33-36a; 23:22; 25:10b, 23

Deuteronomy 5:13-21; 10:14, 19; 24:14-17, 19-21; 27:19

Psalm 24:10; 50:12b; 89:11

Isaiah 1:17; 45:8; 61:1-2

Jeremiah 22:3

Micah 6:8

Amos 5:24

Zechariah 7:9-10

Matthew 5:3-11, 44; 7:1, 12

Luke 6:20-26, 27-28, 31, 35a, 36-38

John 13:34, 15:12, 15:17

Romans 12:19

1 Corinthians 10:26; 13:1-13

Galatians 3:28

James 2:14-18