

Deuteronomy 23:15-16 **Runaway Slaves**

¹⁵ "You shall not give back to his master the slave who has escaped from his master to you. ¹⁶ He may dwell with you in your midst, in the place which he chooses within one of your gates, where it seems best to him; you shall not oppress him. NKJV

Facts Revealed:

- ✧ God does not condemn slavery, but rather uses the bondage of the Children of Israel in Egypt as an example to teach us to be merciful and righteous in our treatment of others, in keeping with the laws of God. [[Exodus 21:1-6](#), [Leviticus 25:39-46](#), [Deuteronomy 15:12-15](#), [16:9-12](#), [24:17-18](#), [24:19-22](#)]
- ✧ However, God does make provision for a slave who escapes from his master to be protected and allowed to become a normal part of society. [[Deuteronomy 23:15-16](#)]
 - ✧ You shall not return to his master the slave who has escaped from his master to you.
 - ✧ He may dwell with you in your midst, where he chooses as it seems best to him.
- ✧ God also forbids that anyone should oppress the former slave.
 - ✧ You shall not oppress him. [[Deuteronomy 23:16](#)]