The Noahide Laws

In Genesis 9:6 God commanded the institution of capital punishment for murder. People were permitted to eat meat for the first time, but they must drain the blood from it first. Eating blood was prohibited. But there was more.

The Talmud in Sanhedrin 56a states that Noah commanded his children to set up governments to establish nations. He also commanded that every nation should observe seven laws, known today as the Noahide Laws. Governments are permitted to add laws to these seven, but they are not to override the 7 original ones. For Example: Much later God commanded the nation of Israel through Moses to observe Ten Commandments. These were for Israel only, not for the Gentile nations.

According to the Talmud, these 7 Laws are known as the Seven Universal Laws of Man. You can find more about them in Wikipedia. Here is a summary of them:

1. **Do not worship idols** – Worship the one true God alone.
2. **Do not commit blasphemy** – Cursing the name of God is forbidden. We must honour and respect God in our speech.
3. **Do not murder** – The death penalty is for murderers, administered if there is one testifying
4. **Do not commit sexual sins** – Incest, adultery, bestiality, homosexuality, and rape are forbidden.
5. **Do not steal**
6. **Do not eat blood or flesh cut from a living animal** – This also includes the ethical treatment of animals.
7. **Do establish courts of justice** – Create courts to enforce the first six laws and create new useful laws or customs.

These laws were considered so important, because they are universal and not Jewish, that US President George Bush had them put into their Public Law:

“The U.S. Congress officially recognized the Noahide Laws in legislation that was passed by both houses. Congress and the President of the U.S., George Bush, indicated in Public Law 102-14, 102nd Congress, that the United States of America was founded upon the Seven Universal Laws of Noah, and that these Laws have been the bedrock of society from the dawn of civilization. They also acknowledged that the Seven Laws of Noah are the foundation upon which civilization stands and that recent weakening of these principles threaten the fabric of civilized society, and that justified preoccupation in educating the Citizens of the U.S. of America and future generations is needed. For this purpose, this Public Law designated March 26, 1991 as Education Day.”

**INTERESTING RESOURCE**

• Beware the Noahide Laws! (bewareofthenoahidelaws.followersofyah.com)

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1 – See Genesis 9:1-7
2 – A Jewish document of teaching, history and law, written between AD 200 and AD 800.
4 – Sanhedrin 56a
5 – en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seven_Laws_of_Noah
7 – bewareofthenoahidelaws.followersofyah.com