

Law of Moses and Land Tax

The purpose of this document is to define conservative Biblical economics. Economics can be a complicated subject, but it is not at all complicated in the Bible. Whether you believe the Bible or not, it is important today to understand Biblical economics. It is important because it may be a path to solving our current economic problems. If Biblical economics were implemented today, then it would look like some form of land tax, and Land tax encourages freedom, prosperity, productivity, individual responsibility, while fairly (equally) distributing wealth. Plus, if one first understands the economics of land tax, and all other economic models become less complicated.

Land Tax

When we think of conservative economics, the most prominent economist mentioned today is Milton Friedman. Since I first heard about the Land Tax Movement when studying the Labor Movement, I was surprised to note Mr. Friedman's support for it with many other conservatives. At the time, I was reading what historian James Kiefer was saying about [James Huntington](#). Here is Mr. Kiefer's description of land tax from that article: "¹Henry George, author of *Progress and Poverty*, argued that, while some forms of wealth are produced by human activity, and are rightly the property of the producers (or those who have obtained them from the previous owners by voluntary gift or exchange), land and natural resources are bestowed by God on the human race, and that every one of the N inhabitants of the earth has a claim to 1/Nth of the coal beds, 1/Nth of the oil wells, 1/Nth of the mines, and 1/Nth of the fertile soil. God wills a society where everyone may sit in peace under his own vine and his own fig tree.

The Law of Moses undertook to implement this by making the ownership of land hereditary, with a man's land divided among his sons (or, in the absence of sons, his daughters), and prohibiting the permanent sale of land. (See Leviticus 25:13-17,23.) The most a man might do with his land is sell the use of it until the next Jubilee year, an amnesty declared once every fifty years, when all debts were cancelled and all land returned to its hereditary owner." Please see rest of [Mr. Kiefer's description](#) for more exciting detail on biblical economics.

Summary: Law of Moses and Land Tax

The purpose of this document is to define conservative Biblical economics. Economics can be a complicated subject, but it is not at all complicated in the Bible. If Biblical economics were implemented today, then it would look like some form of land tax. Because it may be a path to solving our current economic problems, Biblical economics is important to understand. Land tax encourages freedom, prosperity, productivity, individual responsibility, while fairly distributing wealth.

¹ "James Huntington" by James Kiefer