

# Exodus 23:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And six years thou shalt sow thy land, and shalt gather in the fruits thereof:

## Analysis

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**And six years thou shalt sow thy land, and shalt gather in the fruits thereof:**

The Sabbath principle extends to land—work six, rest one. 'Sow thy land' (תִּזְרָע אַתָּה אֶרְאָךְ, tizra et-artzeka) and 'gather fruits' (הַקְרָב אַתָּה אֶסְפָּחָא, ve'asafta et-tevu'atah)—normal agricultural cycle. But verse 11 commands seventh-year rest. This is the Sabbath Year (שְׁמִתָּה, shemittah), detailed in Leviticus 25. The land itself needs rest—God's creation care predates modern environmentalism. The seventh-year rest also provided for the poor (v. 11)—what grew wild was public domain. This challenged economic greed: will you trust God for the seventh year without planting? Observing shemittah demonstrated faith.

## Historical Context

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The Sabbath Year (every seventh year) let land lie fallow—agriculturally sound practice preventing soil depletion. Leviticus 25 describes the year of release in detail, including debt forgiveness and property rights reversion.

## Related Passages

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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. What does extending Sabbath principles to land teach about creation care and environmental stewardship?
2. How does the Sabbath Year requirement test faith in God's provision?

## Interlinear Text

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וְשָׁנָה יְמִינָה שְׁנָה שְׁנָה	תִּזְבְּחֵעַ	תִּזְבְּחֵעַ	אַתָּה	אָרֶץ בָּהּ	אָרֶץ בָּהּ	וְאִסְפַּתְּחֵת	וְאִסְפַּתְּחֵת	אַתָּה
<b>And six</b>	<b>years</b>	<b>thou shalt sow</b>	H853	<b>thy land</b>	<b>and shalt gather</b>			H853
H8337	H8141	H2232		H776		H622		

תְּבוּאָתָה:  
in the fruits  
H8393

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