

# Solon's Laws

Solon remained at school until he was eighteen. Then he served two years in the army. He heard stories of other countries, and he thought how good it would be to study the laws of Egypt and of the East. He sailed south to Egypt and there he met men who knew all about the great days of the Pharaohs. He saw the giant temples on which were painted scenes from Egypt's history. He heard about Moses and met Jews who knew the Ten Commandments. Once when speaking to a wise man of Egypt, he told him the story of Greece and of Troy. "Oh," said the wise man, "keep true history." Solon knew what he meant. Your laws will be better if you know true history.

From *Catholic History Reader I: Stories of the East* by Fr J. F. Kelly, Ora et Labora Publications, 2025