

Deuteronomy 12:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou shalt not eat it; that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, when thou shalt do that which is right in the sight of the LORD.

Analysis

The motivation: 'Thou shalt not eat it; that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, when thou shalt do that which is right in the sight of the LORD.' Obedience to blood prohibition brings blessing—'go well' (יֵטֵב, yitav, prosper/flourish). The generational scope 'and with thy children after thee' shows obedience's long-term consequences. The phrase 'right in the sight of the LORD' defines morality not by human standards but divine perspective. What is 'right' (יָשָׁר, yashar, straight/upright) is determined by God's word. This verse teaches that covenant obedience, even in seemingly small matters like blood disposal, brings covenant blessing.

Historical Context

Deuteronomy frequently connects obedience to prosperity (Deuteronomy 4:40; 5:29; 6:3, 18; 12:25, 28). This reflects covenant structure: loyalty brings blessing, rebellion brings curse. However, Old Testament saints recognized that immediate prosperity doesn't always attend obedience (Job, Psalms 73). The principle operates corporately and across generations more than individually and immediately. Ultimately, obedience brings eternal blessing (Matthew 5:3-12), though temporal suffering may occur (Hebrews 11:35-40).

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How do we balance teaching that obedience brings blessing with reality that righteous people sometimes suffer?
2. What does 'go well with you' mean in New Testament context where suffering for Christ is expected?
3. How does obedience in 'small matters' (like blood disposal) relate to faithfulness in greater matters?

Interlinear Text

ל א	תֹאכֵל נֹ	לֵךְ עַן	יִטֵּב	לְךָ
H3808	Thou shalt not eat	H4616	it that it may go well	H0
	H398		H3190	
	וּלְבָנֶיךָ	אַחֲרֶיךָ	כִּי	תַעֲשֶׂה ה
	with thee and with thy children	after	H3588	thee when thou shalt do
	H1121	H310		H6213
הַיָּשָׁר	בְּעֵינֵי	יְהוָה:		
that which is right	in the sight	of the LORD		
H3477	H5869	H3068		

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 3:10 (Parallel theme): Say ye to the righteous, that it shall be well with him: for they shall eat the fruit of their doings.

Exodus 15:26 (References Lord): And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt

give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.

Deuteronomy 4:40 (References Lord): Thou shalt keep therefore his statutes, and his commandments, which I command thee this day, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days upon the earth, which the LORD thy God giveth thee, for ever.

1 Kings 11:38 (Parallel theme): And it shall be, if thou wilt hearken unto all that I command thee, and wilt walk in my ways, and do that is right in my sight, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as David my servant did; that I will be with thee, and build thee a sure house, as I built for David, and will give Israel unto thee.

Deuteronomy 13:18 (References Lord): When thou shalt hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, to keep all his commandments which I command thee this day, to do that which is right in the eyes of the LORD thy God.

Deuteronomy 6:18 (References Lord): And thou shalt do that which is right and good in the sight of the LORD: that it may be well with thee, and that thou mayest go in and possess the good land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers,