

# Deuteronomy 22:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then ye shall bring them both out unto the gate of that city, and ye shall stone them with stones that they die; the damsel, because she cried not, being in the city; and the man, because he hath humbled his neighbour's wife: so thou shalt put away evil from among you.

## Analysis

**Ye shall stone them with stones that they die**—both parties receive capital punishment, but for different reasons. **The damsel, because she cried not, being in the city**—her silence implies consent since help was available. **The man, because he hath humbled his neighbour's wife**—the verb *innah* (עָנָה, humbled/ violated) shows he violated another man's covenant rights.

**So thou shalt put away evil from among you** (u-vi'arta ha-ra mi-qirbecha, וּבְעֵרְתָּ הָרָע מִקִּרְבְּךָ)—this formula appears throughout Deuteronomy (13:5, 17:7, 19:19), emphasizing covenant community purity. Sexual sin threatens the entire community's relationship with God, requiring decisive action to preserve holiness.

## Historical Context

Public execution at the city gate served both judicial and pedagogical purposes. The gate was the legal center where elders adjudicated cases (Ruth 4:1-11). Stoning required community participation, preventing blood guilt from falling on individuals while demonstrating collective commitment to covenant holiness.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. How does the NT principle "a little leaven leavens the whole lump" (1 Cor 5:6) reflect this OT concern for community holiness?
2. What does church discipline reveal about the seriousness of sexual sin and covenant faithfulness in the new covenant community?

## Interlinear Text

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וְהוֹצֵאתָם	אֶת	שְׁנֵיהֶם	אֶל	שַׁעַר	בְּעִיר		
Then ye shall bring	H853	them both	H413	out unto the gate	not being in the city		
H3318		H8147		H8179	H5892		
וְהָיָה	וּסְקַלְתֶּם	אֹתָם	בְּאֲבָנִים	וּמָתוּ	אֶת		
H1931	and ye shall stone	H853	them with stones	that they die	H853		
	H5619		H68	H4191			
הַנַּעֲמָה	עַל	דִּבָּר	אֲשֶׁר	לֹא	צָעָקָה	בְּעִיר	וְאֵת
the damsel	H5921	H1697	because	H3808	she cried	not being in the city	H853
H5291			H834	H6817	H5892		
וְהָיָה	עַל	דִּבָּר	אֲשֶׁר	עָנָה	אֶת	אִשְׁתּוֹ	
and the man	H5921	H1697	because	he hath humbled	H853	wife	
H376			H834	H6031		H802	
רֵעֵהוּ	וּבְעִרְתָּ	מִקִּרְבּוֹ:	הָרָע				
his neighbour's	so thou shalt put away	evil	from among				
H7453	H1197	H7451	H7130				

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Corinthians 5:13** (Evil): But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.

**Deuteronomy 21:14** (Parallel theme): And it shall be, if thou have no delight in her, then thou shalt let her go whither she will; but thou shalt not sell her at all for money, thou shalt not make merchandise of her, because thou hast humbled her.

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