

# Exodus 19:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

There shall not an hand touch it, but he shall surely be stoned, or shot through; whether it be beast or man, it shall not live: when the trumpet soundeth long, they shall come up to the mount.

## Analysis

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**There shall not an hand touch it, but he shall surely be stoned, or shot through; whether it be beast or man, it shall not live: when the trumpet soundeth long, they shall come up to the mount.**

Even the executioner cannot touch the violator—the contamination is so severe that stoning or shooting from distance is required. The impartiality ('beast or man') shows holiness violations transcend intent—even an unwitting animal crossing the boundary dies. This underscores holiness as objective reality, not subjective feeling. The extended trumpet blast (הַיּוֹבֵל, hayovel) signals when boundaries lift—God Himself determines when approach is safe. The trumpet connects to the ram's horn (yovel = jubilee), pointing forward to ultimate liberation. When Christ the Mediator comes, the trumpet sounds and we CAN approach—but only through Him.

## Historical Context

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The severity of these measures is unprecedented in ancient covenant ceremonies. The use of rams' horns (shofars) for sacred announcements becomes a lasting feature of Israelite worship and eschatological imagery (1 Thessalonians 4:16).

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. Why must even animals that touch the mountain die—what does this teach about holiness?
2. How does the trumpet blast that permits approach to the mountain foreshadow gospel access to God?

## Interlinear Text

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לֹא	בִּוֹ תִגַּע	וְ	יָד	כִּי	יִסָּקַל	יִסָּקַל	אוֹ
H3808	touch	H0	There shall not an hand	H3588	be stoned	be stoned	or
	H5060		H3027		H5619	H5619	H176
הַ	יָרֶה	אוֹ	בְּהֵמָה	אוֹ	אִישׁ	לֹא	יֵחִי
	shot	or	whether it be beast	or	man	H3808	it shall not live
H3384	H3384	H518	H929	H518	H376		H2421
בְּמִשְׁךָ	הִיבֹל	הַ	מָה	יָעֲלוּ	בְּהָרִ:		
soundeth long	when the trumpet		H1992	they shall come up	to the mount		
H4900	H3104			H5927	H2022		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Hebrews 12:20** (Parallel theme): (For they could not endure that which was commanded, And if so much as a beast touch the mountain, it shall be stoned, or thrust through with a dart:

**Exodus 19:19** (Parallel theme): And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice.

**Exodus 19:16** (Parallel theme): And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that was in the camp trembled.

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