

Exodus 22:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Whosoever lieth with a beast shall surely be put to death.

Analysis

Whosoever lieth with a beast shall surely be put to death.

This ordinance reveals God's comprehensive justice—regulating economic transactions, property rights, and social relationships. The mishpatim create framework for covenant community to flourish. Each law applies broader principles: love God supremely, love neighbor practically. Modern believers aren't bound by ceremonial laws but should pursue their spirit—justice, mercy, and faithfulness (Matthew 23:23). God's character revealed in law guides Christian ethics.

Historical Context

These civil regulations distinguished Israel from surrounding nations, creating a society reflecting God's justice. The laws balance individual rights with community welfare, property rights with compassion for the poor.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does this law reveal God's character—His justice, mercy, or holiness?
2. What New Testament principles build upon or fulfill this Old Testament regulation?

Interlinear Text

כָּל	שֶׁכֶּ ב	עִם	בְּהֵמָה	יוֹמָת:	יוֹמָת:
H3605	Whosoever lieth	H5973	with a beast	be put to death	be put to death
	H7901		H929	H4191	H4191

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 27:21 (Parallel theme): Cursed be he that lieth with any manner of beast. And all the people shall say, Amen.

Leviticus 18:23 (Parallel theme): Neither shalt thou lie with any beast to defile thyself therewith: neither shall any woman stand before a beast to lie down thereto: it is confusion.