

Exodus 23:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

There shall nothing cast their young, nor be barren, in thy land: the number of thy days I will fulfil.

Analysis

There shall nothing cast their young, nor be barren, in thy land: the number of thy days I will fulfil.

This command shapes Israel's covenant community life, applying moral law to social relationships. God's justice concerns everyday matters—truthfulness, fairness, compassion. The accumulation of ordinances creates comprehensive ethic governing Israelite society. These aren't arbitrary rules but revelations of God's character. He is just, merciful, truthful; His people must reflect these attributes. New Testament ethics build on this foundation, radicalizing commands while maintaining their spirit.

Historical Context

The Book of the Covenant concludes with liturgical calendar and worship regulations, integrating Israel's civil, moral, and ceremonial life under God's comprehensive rule.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

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

א	ל	ה	תְּהִי	ה	מִשְׁכָּל	ה	וְעֵקֶר	ה	בְּאֶרֶץ	כִּי
H3808			H1961							
There shall				nothing cast their young		nor be barren		in thy land		
				H7921		H6135		H776		
אֶת	מִסְפָּר	ר	יָמֶיךָ	אֶמְלֵא:						
H853	the number		of thy days		I will fulfil					
H4557		H3117		H4390						

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 7:14 (Parallel theme): Thou shalt be blessed above all people: there shall not be male or female barren among you, or among your cattle.

Job 5:26 (Parallel theme): Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in in his season.

Deuteronomy 28:4 (Parallel theme): Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.

Job 21:10 (Parallel theme): Their bull gendereth, and faileth not; their cow calveth, and casteth not her calf.

Isaiah 65:20 (Parallel theme): There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed.

Psalms 144:13 (Parallel theme): That our garners may be full, affording all manner of store: that our sheep may bring forth thousands and ten thousands in our streets:

Psalms 107:38 (Parallel theme): He blesseth them also, so that they are multiplied greatly; and suffereth not their cattle to decrease.

1 Chronicles 23:1 (Parallel theme): So when David was old and full of days, he made Solomon his son king over Israel.

Genesis 35:29 (Parallel theme): And Isaac gave up the ghost, and died, and was gathered unto his people, being old and full of days: and his sons Esau and Jacob buried him.

Genesis 25:8 (Parallel theme): Then Abraham gave up the ghost, and died in a good old age, an old man, and full of years; and was gathered to his people.