

Leviticus 17:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For it is the life of all flesh; the blood of it is for the life thereof: therefore I said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall eat the blood of no manner of flesh: for the life of all flesh is the blood thereof: whosoever eateth it shall be cut off.

Analysis

For it is the life of all flesh; the blood of it is for the life thereof: therefore I said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall eat the blood of no manner of flesh: for the life of all flesh is the blood thereof: whosoever eateth it shall be cut off.

This verse falls within the section on **Sanctity of Blood**. Regulations prohibiting consumption of blood and requiring proper slaughter, emphasizing blood's sacred role in atonement.

Leviticus 17:11 declares 'the life of the flesh is in the blood,' establishing blood's sacred role in atonement, pointing to Christ's blood shed for redemption.

The access to God's presence that Leviticus carefully regulated is now freely available through Christ's blood, tearing the veil and opening the way to God.

Historical Context

Regulations prohibiting consumption of blood and requiring proper slaughter, emphasizing blood's sacred role in atonement. Chapters 17-27, often called the 'Holiness Code,' expand covenant obligations beyond ritual to encompass all of life —sexuality, economics, justice, and relationships. The repeated refrain 'I am the

LORD' grounds these laws in God's character and covenant relationship with Israel. Israel received these laws while encamped at Sinai, before entering Canaan. The laws prepared them for life in the promised land, distinguishing them from Canaanite practices and establishing their identity as God's holy nation. The portable tabernacle, central to Levitical worship, accompanied them through wilderness wanderings and eventually found permanent form in Solomon's temple. Ancient texts like the Code of Hammurabi show that law codes were common in the ancient Near East, but biblical law uniquely grounded ethics in God's character rather than merely social convention.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?
2. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?
3. How does this verse point to Christ, and how does that deepen your faith and gratitude?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	נִפְשָׁ	כֹּל	בָּשָׂר	דָם	נִפְשָׁ	הוּא
H3588	For it is the life	H3605	of all flesh	H1818	is the blood	For it is the life
	H5315		H1320		H5315	H1931
לֹא	לְבָנִים	כֹּל	דָם	כֹּל	בָּשָׂר	כֹּל
אָמַר	לְבָנִים	דָם	וְיִשְׁרָאֵל	דָם	וְיִשְׁרָאֵל	וְיִשְׁרָאֵל
thereof therefore I said	unto the children	of Israel	is the blood	of all flesh	of all flesh	of all flesh
H559	H1121	H3478	H1818	H3605	H1320	H1931
לֹא	אָכְלֵי	כֹּל	בָּשָׂר	כֹּל	בָּשָׂר	וְיִאָכֵל
אָכְלֵי	אָכְלֵי	בָּשָׂר	וְיִשְׁרָאֵל	בָּשָׂר	וְיִשְׁרָאֵל	וְיִשְׁרָאֵל
Ye shall eat	For it is the life	H3605	of all flesh	H1818	H1818	H1931
H3808	H3588	H5315	H3605	H1320	H1818	
כָּל	אָכְלֵי	כָּל	בָּשָׂר	כָּל	בָּשָׂר	כָּל
אָכְלֵי	אָכְלֵי	בָּשָׂר	וְיִכְרֹת	בָּשָׂר	וְיִכְרֹת	וְיִכְרֹת
Ye shall eat	it shall be cut off	H398	H3772	H3605	H1818	H1931
H3605						

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 9:4 (Blood): But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat.

Deuteronomy 12:23 (Blood): Only be sure that thou eat not the blood: for the blood is the life; and thou mayest not eat the life with the flesh.