

Leviticus 18:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.

Analysis

Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.

This verse falls within the section on **Unlawful Sexual Relations**. Prohibitions against various sexual sins, distinguishing Israel from Canaanite practices and protecting family sanctity.

The holiness demanded in Leviticus becomes possible through Christ, who both satisfies God's righteous requirements and transforms believers by His Spirit.

Historical Context

Prohibitions against various sexual sins, distinguishing Israel from Canaanite practices and protecting family sanctity. 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. The Israelite dietary laws in Leviticus 11 have no exact parallel in surrounding

cultures, though some ancient cultures had food taboos, suggesting unique revelation rather than borrowed customs.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?
2. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of sin, the cost of redemption, or the beauty of holiness?
3. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?

Interlinear Text

וְאִתּוֹ	זָכָר	לֹא	תִשָּׁכַב	מִשְׁכָּבִי	אִשָּׁה
H854	with mankind	H3808	Thou shalt not lie	as with	womankind
	H2145		H7901	H4904	H802
וְהוּא:		תוֹעֵבָה הִוא			
it is abomination		H1931			
H8441					

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 20:13 (Parallel theme): If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.

1 Corinthians 6:9 (Parallel theme): Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,

1 Timothy 1:10 (Parallel theme): For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine;

Jude 1:7 (Parallel theme): Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

1 Kings 14:24 (Parallel theme): And there were also sodomites in the land: and they did according to all the abominations of the nations which the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.

Deuteronomy 23:18 (Parallel theme): Thou shalt not bring the hire of a whore, or the price of a dog, into the house of the LORD thy God for any vow: for even both these are abomination unto the LORD thy God.

Judges 19:22 (Parallel theme): Now as they were making their hearts merry, behold, the men of the city, certain sons of Belial, beset the house round about, and beat at the door, and spake to the master of the house, the old man, saying, Bring forth the man that came into thine house, that we may know him.

Genesis 19:5 (Parallel theme): And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them.