

Leviticus 18:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

(For all these abominations have the men of the land done, which were before you, and the land is defiled;)

Analysis

(For all these abominations have the men of the land done, which were before you, and the land is defiled;)

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

Hebrews 9-10 explains how Christ's once-for-all sacrifice supersedes the repeated Levitical offerings, providing permanent cleansing from sin.

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.

Archaeological discoveries at sites like Ugarit reveal Canaanite religious practices Israel's laws explicitly rejected, confirming the Bible's historical reliability and the distinctiveness of Israelite worship.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does this verse point to Christ, and how does that deepen your faith and gratitude?
2. How can you use this verse to worship God more fully, obey Him more faithfully, or love others more sacrificially?
3. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?

Interlinear Text

הָאָרֶץ:	אֲנָשִׁי	עָשׂוּ	לְ	הַתּוֹעֵבֹת	כָּל	אֵת	כִּי
	H376			H8441	H3605	H853	H3588
of the land		done		abominations			
H776		H6213		H411			

הָאָרֶץ:	וְהָיָה	לְפָנֶיךָ	אֲשֶׁר
			H834
of the land	is defiled	which were before	
H776	H2930	H6440	

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 25:16 (Parallel theme): For all that do such things, and all that do unrighteously, are an abomination unto the LORD thy God.

Deuteronomy 20:18 (Parallel theme): That they teach you not to do after all their abominations, which they have done unto their gods; so should ye sin against the LORD your God.

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.

Deuteronomy 27:15 (Parallel theme): Cursed be the man that maketh any graven or molten image, an abomination unto the LORD, the work of the hands of the craftsman, and putteth it in a secret place. And all the people shall answer and say, Amen.

Ezekiel 16:50 (Parallel theme): And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me: therefore I took them away as I saw good.

Ezekiel 22:11 (Parallel theme): And one hath committed abomination with his neighbour's wife; and another hath lewdly defiled his daughter in law; and another in thee hath humbled his sister, his father's daughter.

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.

Leviticus 18:24 (Parallel theme): Defile not ye yourselves in any of these things: for in all these the nations are defiled which I cast out before you:

2 Kings 16:3 (Parallel theme): But he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, yea, and made his son to pass through the fire, according to the abominations of the heathen, whom the LORD cast out from before the children of Israel.

2 Kings 21:2 (Parallel theme): And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, after the abominations of the heathen, whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.