

Leviticus 18:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Ye shall do my judgments, and keep mine ordinances, to walk therein: I am the LORD your God.

Analysis

Ye shall do my judgments, and keep mine ordinances, to walk therein: I am the LORD your God.

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

What Leviticus portrayed through types and shadows, Christ fulfilled in reality through His incarnation, perfect life, atoning death, and resurrection.

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.

Ancient sacrificial texts from cultures surrounding Israel demonstrate the widespread practice of animal sacrifice, but Israel's system uniquely emphasized moral atonement over magical efficacy.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does understanding the purpose behind God's laws help you obey Him from the heart rather than mere duty?
2. How does this verse point to Christ, and how does that deepen your faith and gratitude?
3. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?

Interlinear Text

לֹ֣ל כֵּת תִּשְׁמַר וְאַתְּ	מִשְׁפָּט יְמִינְתִּיךְ	תְּקִינָתִיךְ	וְאַתְּ תִּשְׁמַר וְאַתְּ	מִשְׁפָּט יְמִינְתִּיךְ	תְּקִינָתִיךְ	וְאַתְּ
H853 my judgments	H6213 Ye shall do	H853 mine ordinances	H1980 and keep			
H4941		H2708	H8104			
וְאַתְּ בָּהֵן הַיְהֹוָה אֲלֹהֵיכֶם:						
H0	H589 therein I am the LORD	H3068	H430 your God			

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 18:2 (References God): Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, I am the LORD your God.

Psalms 119:4 (Parallel theme): Thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts diligently.

John 15:14 (Parallel theme): Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

Deuteronomy 6:1 (Judgment): Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it:

Ezekiel 36:27 (Judgment): And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

Ezekiel 20:19 (Judgment): I am the LORD your God; walk in my statutes, and keep my judgments, and do them;

Leviticus 19:37 (Judgment): Therefore shall ye observe all my statutes, and all my judgments, and do them: I am the LORD.

Leviticus 20:22 (Judgment): Ye shall therefore keep all my statutes, and all my judgments, and do them: that the land, whither I bring you to dwell therein, spue you not out.

Leviticus 18:26 (Judgment): Ye shall therefore keep my statutes and my judgments, and shall not commit any of these abominations; neither any of your own nation, nor any stranger that sojourneth among you: