

# Leviticus 19:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbour, and not suffer sin upon him.

## Analysis

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**Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbour, and not suffer sin upon him.**

This verse falls within the section on **Various Laws of Holiness**. Wide-ranging ethical and ceremonial laws, including the command to 'love your neighbor as yourself' (19:18).

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

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Wide-ranging ethical and ceremonial laws, including the command to 'love your neighbor as yourself' (19:18). 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

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. In what ways does this verse deepen your appreciation for Christ's atoning sacrifice and the seriousness of sin?
2. How does this verse point to Christ, and how does that deepen your faith and gratitude?
3. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?

## Interlinear Text

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לֹא	תַּשְׁנַן	אֶת	אֶחָד	יְה	בְּלִבְבָּשְׁךָ	תַּזְכִּיר	תַּזְכִּיר
H3808	<b>Thou shalt not hate</b>	H853	<b>thy brother</b>	H251	<b>in thine heart</b>	H3824	<b>rebuke</b>
	H8130					H3198	<b>rebuke</b>
							H3198
אֶת	עַמִּיתְךָ	אֶל	תַּשְׁנַן	אֶל	עַל	חַטָּאת:	
H853	<b>thy neighbour</b>	H3808	<b>and not suffer</b>	H5375	H5921	<b>sin</b>	
	H5997					H2399	

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 John 2:9** (Parallel theme): He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now.

**1 John 2:11** (Parallel theme): But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

**Luke 17:3** (Parallel theme): Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him.

**Galatians 6:1** (Parallel theme): Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

**Proverbs 9:8** (Parallel theme): Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee.

**Ephesians 5:11** (Parallel theme): And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.

**Romans 1:32** (Parallel theme): Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.