

Leviticus 20:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Analysis

And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

This verse falls within the section on **Penalties for Disobedience**. Punishments for violations of sexual and religious laws, emphasizing the seriousness of sin in God's holy community.

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

Historical Context

Punishments for violations of sexual and religious laws, emphasizing the seriousness of sin in God's holy community. 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 tabernacle's design parallels ancient Near Eastern temple architecture, yet its portable nature and absence of divine images distinguished it from pagan temples.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. What practical steps can you take this week to apply the principles taught in this verse?
2. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?
3. How can you use this verse to worship God more fully, obey Him more faithfully, or love others more sacrificially?

Interlinear Text

וַיֹּדֶבֶר	יְהוָה	אֶל	מֹשֶׁה	לֵאמֹר:
spake	And the LORD	^{H413}	unto Moses	saying
^{H1696}	^{H3068}		^{H4872}	^{H559}

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