

Leviticus 20:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbour's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death.

Analysis

And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbour's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death.

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.

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

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. 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

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does this verse point to Christ, and how does that deepen your faith and gratitude?
2. What practical steps can you take this week to apply the principles taught in this verse?
3. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?

Interlinear Text

אֶת הַיָּשׁוּר	אֶת הַיָּשׁוּר	וְהַנִּזְנוּתִּית:	אֶת הַיָּשׁוּר	אֶת הַיָּשׁוּר	אֶת הַיָּשׁוּר
And the man	and the adulteress	wife	And the man		
H376	H834	H5003	H854	H802	H834
וְהַנִּזְנוּתִּית:	אֶת הַיָּשׁוּר	וְהַנִּזְנוּתִּית:	וְהַנִּזְנוּתִּית:	וְהַנִּזְנוּתִּית:	וְהַנִּזְנוּתִּית:
and the adulteress	wife	with his neighbour's	be put to death		
H5003	H802	H7453	H4191		
וְהַנִּזְנוּתִּית:	וְהַנִּזְנוּתִּית:	וְהַנִּזְנוּתִּית:			
be put to death	and the adulteress	and the adulteress			
H4191	H5003	H5003			

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 5:18 (Parallel theme): Neither shalt thou commit adultery.

Exodus 20:14 (Parallel theme): Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Leviticus 18:20 (Parallel theme): Moreover thou shalt not lie carnally with thy neighbour's wife, to defile thyself with her.

2 Samuel 12:13 (Parallel theme): And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.

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