

Leviticus 20:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And if a man shall lie with a woman having her sickness, and shall uncover her nakedness; he hath discovered her fountain, and she hath uncovered the fountain of her blood: and both of them shall be cut off from among their people.

Analysis

And if a man shall lie with a woman having her sickness, and shall uncover her nakedness; he hath discovered her fountain, and she hath uncovered the fountain of her blood: and both of them shall be cut off from among their people.

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.

Leviticus 17:11 declares 'the life of the flesh is in the blood,' establishing blood's sacred role in atonement, pointing to Christ's blood shed for redemption.

The holiness demanded in Leviticus becomes possible through Christ, who both satisfies God's righteous requirements and transforms believers by His Spirit.

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

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?
2. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of sin, the cost of redemption, or the beauty of holiness?
3. How can you use this verse to worship God more fully, obey Him more faithfully, or love others more sacrificially?

Interlinear Text

וְאִישׁ	אֲשֶׁר	יִשְׁכַּב	אֶת	אִשָּׁה	דָּוָה
And if a man	H834	shall lie	H854	with a woman	having her sickness
H376		H7901		H802	H1739
וְגִלָּתָהּ	אֶת	עֶרְוֹתָהּ	אֶת	מִקְוֵהָ	הָעֵצָה
and shall uncover	H853	her nakedness	H853	her fountain	he hath discovered
H1540		H6172		H4726	H6168
וְהָוָה	וְגִלָּתָהּ	אֶת	מִקְוֵהָ	דָּמָהּ	וְנִכְרְתָהּ
H1931	and shall uncover	H853	her fountain	of her blood	of them shall be cut off
	H1540		H4726	H1818	H3772
וְשְׁנֵיהֶם	מִקְרָב	עֲמָם:			
and both	from among	their people			
H8147	H7130	H5971			

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 15:24 (Parallel theme): And if any man lie with her at all, and her flowers be upon him, he shall be unclean seven days; and all the bed whereon he lieth shall be unclean.

Leviticus 18:19 (Parallel theme): Also thou shalt not approach unto a woman to uncover her nakedness, as long as she is put apart for her uncleanness.