

# Leviticus 21:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Neither shall he go out of the sanctuary, nor profane the sanctuary of his God; for the crown of the anointing oil of his God is upon him: I am the LORD.

## Analysis

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**Neither shall he go out of the sanctuary, nor profane the sanctuary of his God; for the crown of the anointing oil of his God is upon him: I am the LORD.**

This verse falls within the section on **Priestly Holiness**. Higher standards for priests due to their sacred role, including restrictions on mourning practices and marriage.

Every sacrifice and ritual in Leviticus points forward to Jesus Christ, who fulfills the entire sacrificial system as both perfect sacrifice and eternal high priest.

## Historical Context

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Higher standards for priests due to their sacred role, including restrictions on mourning practices and marriage. 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

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**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?
2. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?
3. How does this verse point to Christ, and how does that deepen your faith and gratitude?

## Interlinear Text

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וְמִן	שְׁמִינִי	לֹא	אַתָּא	אַתָּא	לֹא	לֹא	אַתָּא
H4480	<b>of the sanctuary</b>	H3808	<b>Neither shall he go out</b>	H3808	<b>nor profane</b>	H853	
H4720			H3318		H2490		
מִשְׁמָךְ	תְּמִימָה	שֶׁמֶן	נֶזֶר	כְּבָשָׂן	אַלְפָה	וְמִן	אַתָּא
<b>of the anointing</b>	<b>of the anointing</b>	<b>oil</b>	<b>for the crown</b>	H3588	H5145	H8081	H4888
H4720	H430		H5145				
אַתָּא	עַל	אַלְפָה	וְמִן	נֶזֶר	כְּבָשָׂן	שֶׁמֶן	מִשְׁמָךְ
<b>is upon him I am the LORD</b>	<b>is upon him I am the LORD</b>	<b>oil</b>	<b>for the crown</b>	H589	H5921	H430	H4720
H4888	H3068						

## Additional Cross-References

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**Leviticus 10:7** (Temple): And ye shall not go out from the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, lest ye die: for the anointing oil of the LORD is upon you. And they did according to the word of Moses.

**Exodus 28:36** (References Lord): And thou shalt make a plate of pure gold, and grave upon it, like the engravings of a signet, HOLINESS TO THE LORD.

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