

Leviticus 24:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he that blasphemeth the name of the LORD, he shall surely be put to death, and all the congregation shall certainly stone him: as well the stranger, as he that is born in the land, when he blasphemeth the name of the LORD, shall be put to death.

Analysis

And he that blasphemeth the name of the LORD, he shall surely be put to death, and all the congregation shall certainly stone him: as well the stranger, as he that is born in the land, when he blasphemeth the name of the LORD, shall be put to death.

This verse falls within the section on **Oil, Bread, and Blasphemy**. Instructions for tabernacle maintenance and the account of a blasphemer's punishment, showing reverence for God's name.

The New Testament reveals that Christ's sacrifice accomplishes what the Levitical system could only symbolize—complete forgiveness and restoration of relationship with God.

Historical Context

Instructions for tabernacle maintenance and the account of a blasphemer's punishment, showing reverence for God's name. 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 texts like the Code of Hammurabi show that law codes were common in the ancient Near East, but biblical law uniquely grounded ethics in God's character rather than merely social convention.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?
2. How can you use this verse to worship God more fully, obey Him more faithfully, or love others more sacrificially?
3. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?

Interlinear Text

בְּנֵי־קָרְבָּן	שׁ מֶ	יְהֹוָה	יְמִתָּה	יְמִתָּה
And he that blasphemeth	the name	of the LORD	be put to death	be put to death
H5344	H8034	H3068	H4191	H4191
שׁ מֶ	בְּנֵי־קָרְבָּן	יְהֹוָה	יְמִתָּה	יְמִתָּה
shall certainly	shall certainly	H0	H3605	and all the congregation
H7275	H7275			H5712
כָּבֵר	כָּאֵזֶב חָ	בְּנֵי־קָרְבָּן		
him as well the stranger	as he that is born in the land	And he that blasphemeth		
H1616	H249	H5344		
שׁ מֶ	יְמִתָּה			
the name	be put to death			
H8034	H4191			

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 12:31 (Parallel theme): Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.

James 2:7 (Parallel theme): Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called?

1 Timothy 1:13 (Parallel theme): Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.