

Leviticus 25:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The land shall not be sold for ever: for the land is mine; for ye are strangers and sojourners with me.

Analysis

The land shall not be sold for ever: for the land is mine; for ye are strangers and sojourners with me.

This verse falls within the section on **Sabbath Year and Jubilee**. Sabbath year rest for land and Year of Jubilee releasing debts and slaves, teaching trust in God's provision.

What Leviticus portrayed through types and shadows, Christ fulfilled in reality through His incarnation, perfect life, atoning death, and resurrection.

Historical Context

Sabbath year rest for land and Year of Jubilee releasing debts and slaves, teaching trust in God's provision. 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

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. In what practical ways should this verse influence your church life, family relationships, or personal integrity?
2. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?
3. How can you use this verse to worship God more fully, obey Him more faithfully, or love others more sacrificially?

Interlinear Text

ל א	תִּמְכַּר	לְעַמֶּת ת	כִּי	לִי	הָאָרֶץ	כִּי
The land	shall not be sold	for ever			The land	
H776	H4376	H6783	H3588	H0	H776	H3588
גֵּר יִם	וְתוֹשָׁבֵי יִם	אֵת	עַמֵּי:			
is mine for ye are strangers	and sojourners					
H1616	H8453	H859	H5978			

Additional Cross-References

1 Peter 2:11 (Parallel theme): Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

Psalms 39:12 (Parallel theme): Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear unto my cry; hold not thy peace at my tears: for I am a stranger with thee, and a sojourner, as all my fathers were.

Psalms 24:1 (Parallel theme): The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

1 Chronicles 29:15 (Parallel theme): For we are strangers before thee, and sojourners, as were all our fathers: our days on the earth are as a shadow, and there is none abiding.

Ezekiel 48:14 (Parallel theme): And they shall not sell of it, neither exchange, nor alienate the firstfruits of the land: for it is holy unto the LORD.

Exodus 19:5 (Parallel theme): Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine:

Deuteronomy 32:43 (Parallel theme): Rejoice, O ye nations, with his people: for he will avenge the blood of his servants, and will render vengeance to his adversaries, and will be merciful unto his land, and to his people.

Psalms 85:1 (Parallel theme): LORD, thou hast been favourable unto thy land: thou hast brought back the captivity of Jacob.

Joel 3:2 (Parallel theme): I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land.

Joel 2:18 (Parallel theme): Then will the LORD be jealous for his land, and pity his people.