

Leviticus 25:35

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And if thy brother be waxen poor, and fallen in decay with thee; then thou shalt relieve him: yea, though he be a stranger, or a sojourner; that he may live with thee.

Analysis

And if thy brother be waxen poor, and fallen in decay with thee; then thou shalt relieve him: yea, though he be a stranger, or a sojourner; that he may live with thee.

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.

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

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. 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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. What practical steps can you take this week to apply the principles taught in this verse?
2. How does this verse point to Christ, and how does that deepen your faith and gratitude?
3. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?

Interlinear Text

וְכִי H3588	יָמֶיךָ H4134	וְאִם יָרֶד H251	וְנָפַל H4131	עִמָּךְ H5973
	be waxen poor	And if thy brother	and fallen in decay	with thee
	וְהִנֵּי קָרַב H2388	בּוֹ H0	יָרֶד H1616	וְתוֹשָׁב H8453
	then thou shalt relieve	him yea though he be a stranger		or a sojourner
				וְעָרָךְ H5973

Additional Cross-References

Luke 6:35 (Parallel theme): But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil.

Acts 11:29 (Parallel theme): Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea:

Psalms 112:5 (Parallel theme): A good man sheweth favour, and lendeth: he will guide his affairs with discretion.

Psalms 41:1 (Parallel theme): Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.

Psalms 112:9 (Parallel theme): He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth for ever; his horn shall be exalted with honour.

Psalms 37:26 (Parallel theme): He is ever merciful, and lendeth; and his seed is blessed.

Proverbs 14:31 (Parallel theme): He that oppresseth the poor reproacheth his Maker: but he that honoureth him hath mercy on the poor.

1 John 3:17 (Parallel theme): But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

