

# Leviticus 25:43

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou shalt not rule over him with rigour; but shalt fear thy God.

## Analysis

---

**Thou shalt not rule over him with rigour; but shalt fear thy God.**

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. The Israelite dietary laws in Leviticus 11 have no exact parallel in surrounding cultures, though some

ancient cultures had food taboos, suggesting unique revelation rather than borrowed customs.

## Related Passages

---

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

---

1. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?
2. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?
3. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?

## Interlinear Text

---

לֹא	תַּרְדַּךְ	הַ	בְּ	זֶה	בְּפָנָיו	אַתָּה	יִירָא	מְאֹלָקִים:									
H3808	<b>Thou</b>	<b>shalt</b>	<b>not</b>	<b>rule</b>	H0	<b>over</b>	<b>him</b>	<b>with</b>	<b>rigour</b>	H6531	<b>but</b>	<b>shalt</b>	<b>fear</b>	H3372	<b>thy</b>	<b>God</b>	H430

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Colossians 4:1** (Parallel theme): Masters, give unto your servants that which is just and equal; knowing that ye also have a Master in heaven.

**Leviticus 25:46** (Parallel theme): And ye shall take them as an inheritance for your children after you, to inherit them for a possession; they shall be your bondmen for ever: but over your brethren the children of Israel, ye shall not rule one over another with rigour.

**Leviticus 25:17** (References God): Ye shall not therefore oppress one another; but thou shalt fear thy God: for I am the LORD your God.

**Ephesians 6:9** (Parallel theme): And, ye masters, do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening: knowing that your Master also is in heaven; neither is there respect of persons with him.

**Ezekiel 34:4** (Parallel theme): The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up that which was broken, neither have ye brought again that which was driven away, neither have ye sought that which was lost; but with force and with cruelty have ye ruled them.

**Leviticus 25:53** (Parallel theme): And as a yearly hired servant shall he be with him: and the other shall not rule with rigour over him in thy sight.

---

From KJV Study • [kjvstudy.org](http://kjvstudy.org)