

Leviticus 25:46

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

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.

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 access to God's presence that Leviticus carefully regulated is now freely available through Christ's blood, tearing the veil and opening the way to 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

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How can you use this verse to worship God more fully, obey Him more faithfully, or love others more sacrificially?
2. In what practical ways should this verse influence your church life, family relationships, or personal integrity?
3. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?

Interlinear Text

וְהַנִּמְלֹת מֵ	אֶת מִ	בְּנֵי	אֶחָדִים
And ye shall take them as an inheritance	H853	for your children	after
H5157		H1121	H310
לְכָ שָׁת	בְּמַלְעָה	תַּעֲבֹד דָּת	
you to inherit them for a possession	for ever	H0	they shall be your bondmen
H3423	H272	H5769	H5647
בְּאֶחָד	בְּנֵי	בְּאֶחָד	בְּאֶחָד
but over your brethren	for your children	of Israel	one
H251	H1121	H3478	H376
בְּלֹא	בְּפִרְכָּה	אֶשְׁתַּחַוו	but over your brethren
ye shall not rule	with rigour	H0	H251
H3808	H7287	H6531	

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 14:2 (References Israel): And the people shall take them, and bring them to their place: and the house of Israel shall possess them in the land of the LORD for servants and handmaids: and they shall take them captives, whose captives they were; and they shall rule over their oppressors.

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