

Leviticus 26:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I also will do this unto you; I will even appoint over you terror, consumption, and the burning ague, that shall consume the eyes, and cause sorrow of heart: and ye shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it.

Analysis

I also will do this unto you; I will even appoint over you terror, consumption, and the burning ague, that shall consume the eyes, and cause sorrow of heart: and ye shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it.

This verse falls within the section on **Blessings and Curses**. Covenant blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience, establishing consequences of Israel's covenant relationship.

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

Historical Context

Covenant blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience, establishing consequences of Israel's covenant relationship. 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 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of sin, the cost of redemption, or the beauty of holiness?
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

אֶפְשֶׁה אֲנִי לְךָ זֶה אֶת וְהִפְקַדְתִּי י
H637 H589 I also will do H2063 H0 this unto you I will even appoint
H6213 H6485

עָלֶיךָ מִבְּהִלָּה אֶת הַשֹּׁחַ פֶּת וְאֶת הַקֵּץ חַת
H5921 over you terror H853 consumption H853 and the burning ague
H928 H7829 H6920

מְכַל וְתַעֲרֵב עֵינַי יָם וּמְדִיבַת נַפְשִׁי וְזָרַעְתֶּם לְרִיק
that shall consume the eyes and cause sorrow of heart and ye shall sow in vain
H3615 H5869 H1727 H5315 H2232 H7385

וְאָכַל הוּא זֶרְעֶךָ אֹיְבֵיכֶם:
your seed shall eat for your enemies
H2233 H398 H341

Additional Cross-References

Job 31:8 (Parallel theme): Then let me sow, and let another eat; yea, let my offspring be rooted out.

1 Samuel 2:33 (Parallel theme): And the man of thine, whom I shall not cut off from mine altar, shall be to consume thine eyes, and to grieve thine heart: and all the increase of thine house shall die in the flower of their age.

Psalms 78:33 (Parallel theme): Therefore their days did he consume in vanity, and their years in trouble.

Jeremiah 5:17 (Parallel theme): And they shall eat up thine harvest, and thy bread, which thy sons and thy daughters should eat: they shall eat up thy flocks and thine herds: they shall eat up thy vines and thy fig trees: they shall impoverish thy fenced cities, wherein thou trustedst, with the sword.

Deuteronomy 28:51 (Parallel theme): And he shall eat the fruit of thy cattle, and the fruit of thy land, until thou be destroyed: which also shall not leave thee either

corn, wine, or oil, or the increase of thy kine, or flocks of thy sheep, until he have destroyed thee.

Ezekiel 33:10 (Parallel theme): Therefore, O thou son of man, speak unto the house of Israel; Thus ye speak, saying, If our transgressions and our sins be upon us, and we pine away in them, how should we then live?

Micah 6:15 (Parallel theme): Thou shalt sow, but thou shalt not reap; thou shalt tread the olives, but thou shalt not anoint thee with oil; and sweet wine, but shalt not drink wine.

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