

Leviticus 26:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And if ye will not yet for all this hearken unto me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins.

Analysis

And if ye will not yet for all this hearken unto me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins.

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.

Every sacrifice and ritual in Leviticus points forward to Jesus Christ, who fulfills the entire sacrificial system as both perfect sacrifice and eternal high priest.

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.

The tabernacle's design parallels ancient Near Eastern temple architecture, yet its portable nature and absence of divine images distinguished it from pagan temples.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. In what ways does this verse deepen your appreciation for Christ's atoning sacrifice and the seriousness of sin?
2. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?
3. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?

Interlinear Text

וְאִם	עַד	לֹא	אֵלַי	וְשָׁמַעְתִּי	לִי	וְנִסַּפְתִּי
H518	And if ye will not yet	H428	H3808	for all this hearken	H0	more
	H5704			H8085		H3254
לְיָסְרָה	אֶתְכֶם	שֶׁבַע	עַל	חַטֹּאתֵיכֶם		
unto me then I will punish	H853	you seven times	H5921	for your sins		
H3256		H7651		H2403		

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 26:21 (Sin): And if ye walk contrary unto me, and will not hearken unto me; I will bring seven times more plagues upon you according to your sins.

Leviticus 26:28 (Sin): Then I will walk contrary unto you also in fury; and I, even I, will chastise you seven times for your sins.

Leviticus 26:24 (Sin): Then will I also walk contrary unto you, and will punish you yet seven times for your sins.

Psalms 119:164 (Parallel theme): Seven times a day do I praise thee because of thy righteous judgments.

Proverbs 24:16 (Parallel theme): For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again: but the wicked shall fall into mischief.

1 Samuel 2:5 (Parallel theme): They that were full have hired out themselves for bread; and they that were hungry ceased: so that the barren hath born seven; and she that hath many children is waxed feeble.

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