

Leviticus 26:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I will break the pride of your power; and I will make your heaven as iron, and your earth as brass:

Analysis

And I will break the pride of your power; and I will make your heaven as iron, and your earth as brass:

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.

Hebrews 9-10 explains how Christ's once-for-all sacrifice supersedes the repeated Levitical offerings, providing permanent cleansing from sin.

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 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

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?
2. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of sin, the cost of redemption, or the beauty of holiness?
3. What practical steps can you take this week to apply the principles taught in this verse?

Interlinear Text

שְׁמִיכָם אַתְּ יִשְׁבְּרָתִי
And I will break H853 the pride H1347 of your power H5797 and I will make H5414 H853 your heaven H8064

אַתְּ כְּבָרֵץ לְאַתְּ כְּבָרֵץ מִאָרָצָךְ מִכְּנָחָשָׁה:
as iron H853 and your earth H776 as brass H5154

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 28:23 (Parallel theme): And thy heaven that is over thy head shall be brass, and the earth that is under thee shall be iron.

1 Kings 17:1 (Parallel theme): And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.

Isaiah 25:11 (Parallel theme): And he shall spread forth his hands in the midst of them, as he that swimmeth spreadeth forth his hands to swim: and he shall bring down their pride together with the spoils of their hands.

Jeremiah 13:9 (Parallel theme): Thus saith the LORD, After this manner will I mar the pride of Judah, and the great pride of Jerusalem.

Luke 4:25 (Parallel theme): But I tell you of a truth, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elias, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, when great famine was throughout all the land;

Ezekiel 30:6 (Parallel theme): Thus saith the LORD; They also that uphold Egypt shall fall; and the pride of her power shall come down: from the tower of Syene shall they fall in it by the sword, saith the Lord GOD.

1 Samuel 4:11 (Parallel theme): And the ark of God was taken; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were slain.

Daniel 4:37 (Parallel theme): Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase.

Zephaniah 3:11 (Parallel theme): In that day shalt thou not be ashamed for all thy doings, wherein thou hast transgressed against me: for then I will take away out of the midst of thee them that rejoice in thy pride, and thou shalt no more be haughty because of my holy mountain.