

Leviticus 26:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I will also send wild beasts among you, which shall rob you of your children, and destroy your cattle, and make you few in number; and your high ways shall be desolate.

Analysis

I will also send wild beasts among you, which shall rob you of your children, and destroy your cattle, and make you few in number; and your high ways shall be desolate.

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.

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

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. Ancient sacrificial texts from cultures surrounding Israel demonstrate the widespread practice of animal sacrifice, but Israel's system uniquely emphasized moral atonement over magical efficacy.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. In what practical ways should this verse influence your church life, family relationships, or personal integrity?
2. What practical steps can you take this week to apply the principles taught in this verse?
3. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?

Interlinear Text

בְּשָׂרֵךְ מִתְּאֵת בְּכָם וְהַשְׁלִחָתִי

I will also send

H0

H853

beasts

H2416

בְּשָׂרֵךְ

wild

H7704

וְשִׁכְלָה

among you which shall rob you of your children

H7921

אֶתְכֶם

אֶתְכֶם וְהַכְרִיתָה

H853

and destroy

H3772

בְּבָמָתֶךָ מִ

your cattle

H929

וְהַמְּעֵד יִתְהַ

and make you few in number

H4591

אֶתְכֶם

וְבָשָׂר מִזְבֵּחַ

H853

shall be desolate

H8074

דָּרְכֵיכֶם:

and your high ways

H1870

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 14:15 (Parallel theme): If I cause noisome beasts to pass through the land, and they spoil it, so that it be desolate, that no man may pass through because of the beasts:

Deuteronomy 32:24 (Parallel theme): They shall be burnt with hunger, and devoured with burning heat, and with bitter destruction: I will also send the teeth of beasts upon them, with the poison of serpents of the dust.

Judges 5:6 (Parallel theme): In the days of Shamgar the son of Anath, in the days of Jael, the highways were unoccupied, and the travellers walked through byways.

Isaiah 33:8 (Parallel theme): The highways lie waste, the wayfaring man ceaseth: he hath broken the covenant, he hath despised the cities, he regardeth no man.

Zechariah 7:14 (Parallel theme): But I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations whom they knew not. Thus the land was desolate after them, that no man passed through nor returned: for they laid the pleasant land desolate.

Leviticus 26:6 (Parallel theme): And I will give peace in the land, and ye shall lie down, and none shall make you afraid: and I will rid evil beasts out of the land, neither shall the sword go through your land.

Lamentations 1:4 (Parallel theme): The ways of Zion do mourn, because none come to the solemn feasts: all her gates are desolate: her priests sigh, her virgins are afflicted, and she is in bitterness.

2 Kings 17:25 (Parallel theme): And so it was at the beginning of their dwelling there, that they feared not the LORD: therefore the LORD sent lions among them, which slew some of them.

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