

# Numbers 15:34

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they put him in ward, because it was not declared what should be done to him.

## Analysis

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They 'put him in ward, because it was not declared what should be done to him'—even though Sabbath-breaking was capital crime (Exodus 31:14-15), they waited for specific divine instruction. This careful deference to God's word demonstrates that even in matters where principle seems clear, specific application requires divine wisdom.

## Historical Context

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This hesitation may reflect uncertainty about whether the general Sabbath law applied with full force during wilderness wandering when normal agricultural and domestic patterns didn't apply. God's specific command in this case removed all ambiguity about His will.

## Related Passages

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**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. How do you seek God's specific guidance even when general principles seem clear?

2. What role does the community of faith play in discerning God's will for difficult cases?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיִּחַוּ	אֶת־וְ	בַּמִּשְׁמֶרֶת	כִּי־	לֹא־	כִּי־שָׁ	מֵה
<b>And they put</b>	H853	<b>him in ward</b>	H3588	H3808	<b>because it was not declared</b>	H4100
H3240		H4929			H6567	
עָשָׂה		לֵוִי:				
<b>what should be done</b>		H0				
H6213						

## Additional Cross-References

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**Leviticus 24:12** (Parallel theme): And they put him in ward, that the mind of the LORD might be shewed them.