

# Numbers 15:35

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD said unto Moses, The man shall be surely put to death: all the congregation shall stone him with stones without the camp.

## Analysis

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God commanded execution by stoning—the community's collective participation symbolized that his sin offended all and required corporate response. Stoning also prevented any individual from bearing sole responsibility for the death, distributing the burden across the community. The severity matched the crime's serious nature: public, willful covenant violation.

## Historical Context

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Stoning was the prescribed punishment for various covenant violations including blasphemy (Leviticus 24:16), idolatry (Deuteronomy 17:5), and rebellion (Deuteronomy 21:21). It served both as punishment and as solemn warning to all Israel about the cost of presumptuous sin.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. How does church discipline today reflect the principle that sin affects the whole body?
2. What does God's holiness require in response to willful, unrepentant sin?

## Interlinear Text

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בְּאָישׁ יוּמָת יוּמָת מֵשֶׁה יְהוָה אֶל יְיָ אָמָר  
said And the LORD unto Moses put to death put to death The man  
H559 H3068 H413 H4872 H4191 H4191 H376

מֵחַזֵּק וְגַם אַתָּה בְּאֶבֶנִים כָּל בְּעֵד הַמִּחְזֶק  
shall stone him with stones all the congregation without  
H7275 H853 H68 H3605 H5712 H2351

לִפְנֵיהֶן:  
the camp  
H4264

## Additional Cross-References

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**Acts 7:58** (Parallel theme): And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.

**1 Kings 21:13** (Parallel theme): And there came in two men, children of Belial, and sat before him: and the men of Belial witnessed against him, even against Naboth, in the presence of the people, saying, Naboth did blaspheme God and the king. Then they carried him forth out of the city, and stoned him with stones, that he died.

**Deuteronomy 21:21** (Parallel theme): And all the men of his city shall stone him with stones, that he die: so shalt thou put evil away from among you; and all Israel shall hear, and fear.

**Leviticus 24:23** (References Lord): And Moses spake to the children of Israel, that they should bring forth him that had cursed out of the camp, and stone him with stones. And the children of Israel did as the LORD commanded Moses.

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