

# Numbers 25:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he went after the man of Israel into the tent, and thrust both of them through, the man of Israel, and the woman through her belly. So the plague was stayed from the children of Israel.

## Analysis

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Verse 8 describes the execution in graphic detail—'and thrust both of them through.' The specificity emphasizes the seriousness and publicity of the judgment. Scripture doesn't sanitize or romanticize the cost of maintaining covenant purity. Real consequences for real sin preserve the community. This sobering account warns that God takes His holiness seriously.

## Historical Context

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The names of both offenders are given (verse 14-15): Zimri, a Simeonite prince, and Cozbi, daughter of a Midianite chief. Their high social status made their sin especially influential and their judgment especially necessary. Leadership amplifies both the danger of sin and the importance of its judgment.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. How does Scripture's unflinching account of sin's consequences affect your view of holiness?
2. What sins are you tempted to minimize that God takes with deadly seriousness?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיֵּבֶא	אַחֲרַי	אֶת יֵשׁ	יִשְׂרָאֵל:	אֶל	הַקֶּבֶד הַ
And he went	after	of them through the man	of Israel	through	into the tent
H935	H310	H376	H3478	H413	H6898
וַיִּדְקֹר	אֶת	שְׁנֵיהֶם	אֶת יֵשׁ	יִשְׂרָאֵל:	וְאֶת
and thrust	H853	both	of them through the man	of Israel	H853
H1856		H8147	H376	H3478	
וְהָאִשָּׁה	אֶל	קֶבֶד הַ	וַתֵּעָצֵר	הַמִּגַּפָּה	מֵעַל
and the woman	through	her belly	was stayed	So the plague	H5921
H802	H413	H6897	H6113	H4046	
בְּנֵי יִ	יִשְׂרָאֵל:				
from the children	of Israel				
H1121	H3478				