

Numbers 5:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Analysis

The LORD speaking to Moses reaffirms prophetic authority as the channel for divine law. Each new section in Numbers begins with this formula, establishing that Israel's laws originated not from human wisdom but divine revelation. The Hebrew *vaydabber* (and He spoke) indicates continued communication—God did not give the law once and fall silent, but continuously instructed His people. This models ongoing revelation that culminated in Christ, through whom God has spoken finally (Hebrews 1:1-2).

Historical Context

The laws in Numbers 5 address ritual purity necessary for maintaining God's presence among His people in the camp. These regulations date to approximately 1445 BC during Israel's second year in the wilderness. The emphasis on purity intensified because God dwelled visibly among them in the tabernacle.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does God's continuous revelation to Moses comfort us that He still speaks through Scripture?
2. What difference does it make that biblical laws come from God, not human invention?
3. How has God's final revelation in Christ surpassed even Mosaic revelation?

Interlinear Text

וַיִּדְבֹּר	יְהוָה	אֶל	מֹשֶׁה	לֵאמֹר:
spake	And the LORD	^{H413}	unto Moses	saying
^{H1696}	^{H3068}		^{H4872}	^{H559}

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