

# Numbers 9:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, If any man of you or of your posterity shall be unclean by reason of a dead body, or be in a journey afar off, yet he shall keep the passover unto the LORD.

## Analysis

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The law that 'if any man of you or of your posterity shall be unclean by reason of a dead body, or be in a journey afar off' extends the second Passover provision to future generations. The Hebrew dorot (generations) makes this permanent statute. Two categories received accommodation: the ceremonially unclean and travelers. This demonstrates God's realism about human conditions while maintaining holiness requirements. The principle that life circumstances should not permanently exclude sincere worshipers finds fulfillment in Christ, who breaks down every barrier between God and man (Ephesians 2:14).

## Historical Context

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The travel provision recognized that Israelites might be legitimately absent from the central sanctuary due to necessary journeys. In later centuries when Jews lived in diaspora far from Jerusalem, this provision gained increased importance, though by then synagogue worship had developed as a substitute for temple participation.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

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

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How does God's accommodation for circumstances challenge legalistic exclusion of sincere believers?
2. What barriers to worship exist today that sincere faith should overcome?
3. How has Christ's work eliminated the distance and separation that once kept people from God?

## Interlinear Text

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כִּי אִישׁ אֲשֶׁר לֹא מִתְּבֹאֵר בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לֹא מִשְׁמָרָה רַבָּה  
Speak unto the children of Israel saying If any If any H3588

בְּדַבָּר יְהִי אָז לֹא פָשָׁם אָז בְּדַבָּר יְהִי אָז  
H1961 shall be unclean by reason of a dead body H176 or be in a journey H1870

וְעַד שָׁה לְדַרְתְּ תִּיכְמָה אָז לְכָמָה רְחַקְתָּה  
afar off H0 H176 of you or of your posterity yet he shall keep H6213

לְיְהִיָּה פָּסָחַ  
the passover unto the LORD

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