

Retribution on the Unfaithful

Lev 26:18-21

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Thesis: I want to show how seriously God takes rebellion to His commands.

Intro

1. It is common today for many to try to rationalize and condone sin.
2. God never condones sin and He never will.

I. The Commands & the Rewards

A. Do not go after idols or “gods” (**Lev 26:1**)

1. This command is one that should be obvious, clear & simple.
2. However, people today still fail and go after idols & false “gods”

B. Give God His Day (**Lev 26:2**)

1. They were to fear God and honor him.
2. They were to worship Him on the Sabbath.
3. They were to reverence God, that is they were to honor and respect Him.
4. You cannot do that when you disobey Him.

C. The Rewards of obedience

1. Rain in its seasons, produce of the land & trees (**v.3-4**)
3. Threshing, vintage & sowing will last the entire season & they will eat and be full (**v.5**).
4. Enemies, beasts, and the sword will not harm them. (**v.6-8**)
5. God will look on them favorably and they will have plenty (**v.9-10**)
6. God will bless them and walk among them (**v.11-13**)

II. God’s Humbling Retribution

A. 1st round of punishment

1. The warning (**v.14-15**)
2. God will bring disease & fever upon them (**v.16**)
3. Those who hate them will rule over them (**v.17**)

B. 2nd round of punishment

1. The force of punishment increases 7 times (**v.18**)
2. He will break their pride (**v.19a**)
3. No rain & now produce from the land (**v.19b-20**)

C. 3rd round of punishment

1. Continued disobedience & seven times more plagues (**v.21**)
2. Beasts will devour them (**v.22**)

D. 4th round of punishment

1. Continued disobedience means continued punishment (**v.23-24**)
2. God brings a sword & pestilence on them (**v.25**)
3. Food will be limited (**v.26**)

E. 5th round of punishment

1. God now not only walks contrary to them, but does so in fury (**v.27-28**)

2. This image was also seen at the siege of Samaria and similar statements are made in **Lam 4:9-10 & Deut 28:53 (v.29)**

a. It is important to note that God did not make them do this evil act, their sinfulness and unrepentant lives pushed them to this point.

3. God said their bodies will lie on the lifeless forms of their idols (**v.30**)

4. God brings the cities down and makes them dwell among their enemies (**v.31-35**)

F. Those that are left (**Lev 26:36-39**)

1. Faintness of heart will be in them & they will be afraid of their own shadow.

2. They will suffer defeats by their enemies and waste away in their enemies land.

5 rounds of punishment then the remaining are left to suffer.

III. Lessons for us Today

A. The Last Hope

1. If they will confess sin things will be different. (**v.40**)

2. They must be humble & accept their guilt (**v.41-42**)

3. They must accept their guilt because they recognize their errors (**v.43**)

4. God will leave those who remain and not break his covenant with them (**v.44-45**)

Conc:

1. God takes sin seriously.

2. God will punish those in sin. If not in this life then in the next.

3. Full Invitation