

Intro:

Main Point of Text: God reviews the worst sins of chapters 18 and 19 and prescribes severe punishments to keep His Church from profaning Him and from destroying their lives so that by holiness they remain a people.

Sermon Point: *Profane Lifestyles Will Be Punished.*

Move 1: The way for society not to suffer punishment is to avoid sinning by being godly.

These penalties are to deter God's people from profanity and promote their sanctity. Vss. 7-8, 24-26. God separated you, stay separated (holy). Leviticus is about God and His holiness. Thus, His people: vs. 7 (11:44-45; 19:2; 1 Peter 1:16) Eph. 1:4; 2:10. 2 Tim. 2:16.

Move 2: All sins against society deserve to be punished.

Repeated phrases: "shall bear his/their/iniquity"; "their blood shall be upon them". Severe consequences: their horrible sins will *deserve* them. Thus this chapter is mainly a list of prescribed executions and excommunications. Repetitions: "shall surely be put to death", "shall die/be childless"; "cut off from among his people." Also: "land spue you out"; "stone him with stones"; "be burnt with fire". Rom 6:23a. 1 John 3:4. Look to the cross: it was an execution and excommunication.

Move 3: All sins against society must be punished by society.

To "Sons of Israel, vs. 1. Corporate responsibility: vss. 2, 4. Israel a Theocracy. Now, State has sword of flesh: Rom 13 (execution); Church, the Spirit (excommunication). Both responsible to use them. WCF 30.

Move 4: If society doesn't punish sinners against it, God will punish both.

Vs. 3: "profane my holy name" (see 18:21, 19:12); He resents being reflected as unholy. Ex. 20:7. God will get Personally involved: vss. 4, 5, 6; the source of "childless"; "land spew out" (vss. 20-22). Can't hide from God. Psalm 11:4-6. A more serious form of punishment is Rom. 1:24, 28.

Move 5: God warns that some sins are especially heinous and dangerous.

Not everything in 18 and 19 is mentioned. The ones listed are highlighted for their heinousness. Vss. 1-5, 6, 27: sacrificing children to false gods/consulting sorcerers. Vs. 9: defying parents. Vs. 10: adultery. Vss. 11, 12, 14, 17, 19-21: incest. Vss. 13, 15, 16, 18: unnatural sex. WLC 150-151: some sins more heinous.

Conclusion:

1 Pet. 4:17

Profane Lifestyles Will Be Punished.