

# SHRIMP, SEX AND SCRIPTURE

*How to Determine if Commands are Transcultural*

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# SAMPLE ISSUES

<u>Passage</u>	<u>Issue</u>
Exod 20:14	Adultery
Exod 22:18	Sorceress
Exod 21:28-29	Ox Gores
Exod 34:12-13	Destroy idols
Lev 11:7	Pig
Lev 11:10	Shrimp
Lev 19:17-18	Love neighbor
Lev 19:28	Tattoos
Lev 20:11	Incest
Lev 20:13	Homosexual activity
Deut 5:21	Coveting
Deut 6:4	Love God
Deut 19:4-5	Axe
Deut 22:8	Parapet on roof
Exod 22:1,4	Theft
Joel 3:1-3	Human trafficking
1 Cor 11:4-6	Head covered

## Ways of Assessing Applicability

1. What is the penalty?
2. What is the NT's attitude?
3. For how many cultures is the principle stated as valid?

1.

## Examine penalties.

A. OT or passage's penalty.

### Passage

### Issue

### Outcome

Exod 20:14

Adultery

Death (Lev 20:10)

Exod 22:18

Sorceress

Death

Exod 21:28-29

Ox Gores

Kill ox; 2nd time kill owner

Exod 34:12-13

Destroy idols

Supposed to do it; penalty for following other religions is death (Deut 13:6-11)

Lev 11:7

Pig

Unclean

Lev 11:10

Shrimp

Unclean (11:24-25)

Lev 19:17-18

Love neighbor

Lev 19:28

Tattoos

Unclear

Lev 20:11

Incest

Death

Lev 20:13

Homosexual activity

Death

Deut 5:21

Coveting

Varies (e.g., restitution, death)

Deut 6:4

Love God

Be benefited (v. 18)

Deut 19:4-5

Axe

Live in city of refuge

Deut 22:8

Parapet on roof

Bloodguilt

Exod 22:1,4

Theft

Restitution (2x-5x as much)

Joel 3:1-3

Human trafficking

God's wrath; death (Exod 21:16)

1 Cor 11:4-6

Head covered

Disgrace

## 2. NT attitude toward the command--amplified, affirmed, permitted, unstated, cancelled.

<u>Passage</u>	<u>Issue</u>	<u>NT reiterated &amp; Outcome</u>
Exod 20:14	Adultery	Y; eternal punishment (Rev 21:8; Heb 13:4)
Exod 22:18	Sorceress	Y; eternal punishment (Rev 21:8)
Exod 21:28-29	Ox Gores	N
Exod 34:12-13	Destroy idols	Y; Fight other religions in the realm of ideas and spiritual power (see Acts; Revelation); idolatry is punishable (see 1 Cor)
Lev 11:7	Pig	N; Jesus declared all foods clean
Lev 11:10	Shrimp	N; Jesus declared all foods clean-- same passage reiterated condemnation of sexual immorality (Mark 7:18-23)
Lev 19:17-18	Love neighbor	Y; Matt 22:39, etc
Lev 19:28	Tattoos	N
Lev 20:11	Incest	Y; Excommunicate, avoid all contact; potential eternal punishment (1 Cor 5)
Lev 20:13	Homosexual activity	Y; eternal punishment (Rom 1; 1 Cor 6)

Deut 5:21	Coveting	Y; Mark 7:18-23
Deut 6:4	Love God	Y; Matt 22:37, etc.
Deut 19:4-5	Axe	N
Deut 22:8	Parapet on roof	N
Exod 22:1,4	Theft	Y; Mark 7:18-23;
Joel 3:1-3	Human trafficking	N
1 Cor 11:4-6	Head covered	NT only (Corinth). . . .

### 3. Number of cultures for which the command is stated as valid.

#### A. Bible culture examples:

(1) Ancient Canaan

(2) OT Israel (Torah). Subgroupings:

a. Israel--Wilderness

b. Israel--Conquest/Judges

c. Israel--Monarchy

d. Israel--Postexilic Period

(3) Judaea, Samaria, Galilee

(4) Greco-Roman Society & Subgroupings

B. If only one culture, *possibly* culturally specific--but probably with an underlying principle which transcends cultures.

C. If multiple cultures, then quite difficult to rule out as transcultural.

### 3. Multiple Cultures?

<u>Passage</u>	<u>Issue</u>	<u>Overtly in multiple Cultures?</u>
Exod 20:14	Adultery	Y; condemned
Exod 22:18	Sorceress	Y; condemned
Exod 21:28-29	Ox Gores	N; [principle: animal control?]
Exod 34:12-13	Destroy idols	Y; do it (but in the realm of ideas in the NT, not actively tearing down idols)
Lev 11:7	Pig	Y; NT cancels
Lev 11:10	Shrimp	N; NT cancels
Lev 19:17-18	Love neighbor	Y; promoted
Lev 19:28	Tattoos	N
Lev 20:11	Incest	Y; condemned
Lev 20:13	Homosexual activity	Y; condemned
Deut 5:21	Coveting	Y; condemned
Deut 6:4	Love God	Y; promoted
Deut 19:4-5	Axe	Y?; Joshua set aside cities of refuge
Deut 22:8	Parapet on roof	N [principle: safety?]
Exod 22:1,4	Theft	Y; condemned
Joel 3:1-3	Human trafficking	Y; condemned
1 Cor 11:4-6	Head covered	N; [principle: modesty?]