

Leviticus 18:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy mother's sister:
for she is thy mother's near kinswoman.

Analysis

Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy mother's sister: for she is thy mother's near kinswoman.

This verse falls within the section on **Unlawful Sexual Relations**. Prohibitions against various sexual sins, distinguishing Israel from Canaanite practices and protecting family sanctity.

What Leviticus portrayed through types and shadows, Christ fulfilled in reality through His incarnation, perfect life, atoning death, and resurrection.

Historical Context

Prohibitions against various sexual sins, distinguishing Israel from Canaanite practices and protecting family sanctity. Chapters 17-27, often called the 'Holiness Code,' expand covenant obligations beyond ritual to encompass all of life—sexuality, economics, justice, and relationships. The repeated refrain 'I am the LORD' grounds these laws in God's character and covenant relationship with Israel. Israel received these laws while encamped at Sinai, before entering Canaan. The laws prepared them for life in the promised land, distinguishing them from Canaanite practices and establishing their identity as God's holy nation. The portable tabernacle, central to Levitical worship, accompanied them through wilderness wanderings and eventually found permanent form in Solomon's temple.

Ancient sacrificial texts from cultures surrounding Israel demonstrate the widespread practice of animal sacrifice, but Israel's system uniquely emphasized moral atonement over magical efficacy.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?
2. What practical steps can you take this week to apply the principles taught in this verse?
3. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?

Interlinear Text

עָרֵת תִּתְגַּלְלֵה	אֲחִות	אָמֵן	לֹא	תִּתְגַּלְלֵה	כִּי
the nakedness	sister	for she is thy mother's	H3808	Thou shalt not uncover	H3588
H6172	H269	H517		H1540	

שָׁאֵר	אָמֵן	הִוא:
near kinswoman	for she is thy mother's	H1931

| H7607 | H517 | |

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