

# Leviticus 18:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy daughter in law:  
she is thy son's wife; thou shalt not uncover her nakedness.

## Analysis

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**Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy daughter in law: she is thy son's wife; thou shalt not uncover her nakedness.**

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

Hebrews 9-10 explains how Christ's once-for-all sacrifice supersedes the repeated Levitical offerings, providing permanent cleansing from sin.

## Historical Context

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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.

The Israelite dietary laws in Leviticus 11 have no exact parallel in surrounding cultures, though some ancient cultures had food taboos, suggesting unique revelation rather than borrowed customs.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

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

## Study Questions

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1. How does understanding the purpose behind God's laws help you obey Him from the heart rather than mere duty?
2. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?
3. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of sin, the cost of redemption, or the beauty of holiness?

## Interlinear Text

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עֲרוֹתָהּ: her nakedness H6172	כַּלְתָּךְ of thy daughter in law H3618	ל א H3808	תִּגְלֶה Thou shalt not uncover H1540	אִשְׁתְּ wife H802
בְּנֶךְ she is thy son's H1121	הָ וּא H1931	ל א H3808	תִּגְלֶה Thou shalt not uncover H1540	עֲרוֹתָהּ: her nakedness H6172

## Additional Cross-References

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**Leviticus 20:12** (Word): And if a man lie with his daughter in law, both of them shall surely be put to death: they have wrought confusion; their blood shall be upon them.

**Genesis 38:26** (Parallel theme): And Judah acknowledged them, and said, She hath been more righteous than I; because that I gave her not to Shelah my son. And he knew her again no more.

**Ezekiel 22:11** (Word): And one hath committed abomination with his neighbour's wife; and another hath lewdly defiled his daughter in law; and another in thee hath humbled his sister, his father's daughter.

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