

Leviticus 18:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of a woman and her daughter, neither shalt thou take her son's daughter, or her daughter's daughter, to uncover her nakedness; for they are her near kinswomen: it is wickedness.

Analysis

Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of a woman and her daughter, neither shalt thou take her son's daughter, or her daughter's daughter, to uncover her nakedness; for they are her near kinswomen: it is wickedness.

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

The holiness demanded in Leviticus becomes possible through Christ, who both satisfies God's righteous requirements and transforms believers by His Spirit.

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. Archaeological discoveries at sites like Ugarit reveal Canaanite religious practices Israel's laws explicitly rejected, confirming the Bible's historical reliability and the distinctiveness of Israelite worship.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?
2. In what practical ways should this verse influence your church life, family relationships, or personal integrity?
3. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?

Interlinear Text

עֲרוֹתָּהּ הִיא	אִשָּׁהּ הִיא	בִּתּוֹתָּהּ הִיא	לֹא	לְגַלּוֹתָּהּ	אֵת
her nakedness	of a woman	and her daughter	H3808	Thou shalt not uncover	H853
H6172	H802	H1323		H1540	
בִּתּוֹתָּהּ הִיא	בְּנֵיהָ הִיא	וְאֵת	בִּתּוֹתָּהּ הִיא	בִּתּוֹתָּהּ הִיא	לֹא
and her daughter	her son's	H853	and her daughter	and her daughter	H3808
H1323	H1121		H1323	H1323	
תִּקַּח	לְגַלּוֹתָּהּ	עֲרוֹתָּהּ הִיא			
neither shalt thou take	Thou shalt not uncover	her nakedness			
H3947	H1540	H6172			
שָׂאֲכָהּ הִיא	הִיא נָה	זָמָה הִיא	הִיא זָמָה		
for they are her near kinswomen	H2007	it is wickedness	H1931		
H7608		H2154			

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 20:14 (Evil): And if a man take a wife and her mother, it is wickedness: they shall be burnt with fire, both he and they; that there be no wickedness among you.