

Leviticus 18:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The nakedness of thy father, or the nakedness of thy mother, shalt thou not uncover: she is thy mother; thou shalt not uncover her nakedness.

Analysis

The nakedness of thy father, or the nakedness of thy mother, shalt thou not uncover: she is thy mother; 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.

The access to God's presence that Leviticus carefully regulated is now freely available through Christ's blood, tearing the veil and opening the way to God.

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 texts like the Code of Hammurabi show that law codes were common in the ancient Near East, but biblical law uniquely grounded ethics in God's character rather than merely social convention.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?
2. What practical steps can you take this week to apply the principles taught in this verse?
3. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?

Interlinear Text

עֲרוֹתָהּ:	אֲבִי יָבִ	עֲרוֹתָהּ:	אִמִּי	לֹא
The nakedness	of thy father	The nakedness	of thy mother	H3808
H6172	H1	H6172	H517	
תִּגְלֶהּ ה	אִמִּי	הִיא וְאִ	לֹא	תִּגְלֶהּ ה
shalt thou not uncover	of thy mother	H1931	H3808	shalt thou not uncover
H1540	H517			H1540
עֲרוֹתָהּ:				
The nakedness				
H6172				

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 20:11 (Parallel theme): And the man that lieth with his father's wife hath uncovered his father's nakedness: both of them shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.

Ezekiel 22:10 (Parallel theme): In thee have they discovered their fathers' nakedness: in thee have they humbled her that was set apart for pollution.