

# Leviticus 18:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The nakedness of thy father's wife shalt thou not uncover: it is thy father's nakedness.

## Analysis

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**The nakedness of thy father's wife shalt thou not uncover: it is thy father's 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

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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.

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

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**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of sin, the cost of redemption, or the beauty of holiness?
2. In what practical ways should this verse influence your church life, family relationships, or personal integrity?
3. How does this verse point to Christ, and how does that deepen your faith and gratitude?

## Interlinear Text

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תָּגַל	ה	ל	א	אָבִיךָ	אֲשֶׁת	עָרֵת	ת	עָרֵת	ת	
shalt thou	not uncover									
<b>The nakedness</b>	<b>wife</b>			<b>it is thy father's</b>			H3808			
H6172	H802			H1						H1540

הִוא:	אָבִיךָ	אֲבִיךָ	עָרֵת	ת
<b>The nakedness</b>	<b>it is thy father's</b>			H1931
H6172				H1

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Corinthians 5:1** (Parallel theme): It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife.

**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.

**Deuteronomy 22:30** (Parallel theme): A man shall not take his father's wife, nor discover his father's skirt.

**Deuteronomy 27:20** (Parallel theme): Cursed be he that lieth with his father's wife; because he uncovereth his father's skirt. And all the people shall say, Amen.

**Genesis 49:4** (Parallel theme): Unstable as water, thou shalt not excel; because thou wentest up to thy father's bed; then defiledst thou it: he went up to my couch.

**Amos 2:7** (Parallel theme): That pant after the dust of the earth on the head of the poor, and turn aside the way of the meek: and a man and his father will go in unto the same maid, to profane my holy name: