

Leviticus 19:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Ye shall not round the corners of your heads, neither shalt thou mar the corners of thy beard.

Analysis

Ye shall not round the corners of your heads, neither shalt thou mar the corners of thy beard.

This verse falls within the section on **Various Laws of Holiness**. Wide-ranging ethical and ceremonial laws, including the command to 'love your neighbor as yourself' (19:18).

The New Testament reveals that Christ's sacrifice accomplishes what the Levitical system could only symbolize—complete forgiveness and restoration of relationship with God.

Historical Context

Wide-ranging ethical and ceremonial laws, including the command to 'love your neighbor as yourself' (19:18). 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

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does this verse point to Christ, and how does that deepen your faith and gratitude?
2. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?
3. How can you use this verse to worship God more fully, obey Him more faithfully, or love others more sacrificially?

Interlinear Text

ל א	תִּקַּן פִּי	פְּאַת	רֹאשְׁךָ מ	וְל א	תִּשֶׁחַ ית
H3808	Ye shall not round	the corners	of your heads	H3808	neither shalt thou mar
	H5362	H6285	H7218		H7843
ת א	פְּאַת	זָקְנְךָ:			
H853	the corners	of thy beard			
	H6285	H2206			

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 14:1 (Parallel theme): Ye are the children of the LORD your God: ye shall not cut yourselves, nor make any baldness between your eyes for the dead.

Leviticus 21:5 (Parallel theme): They shall not make baldness upon their head, neither shall they shave off the corner of their beard, nor make any cuttings in their flesh.

Ezekiel 44:20 (Parallel theme): Neither shall they shave their heads, nor suffer their locks to grow long; they shall only poll their heads.

Jeremiah 48:37 (Parallel theme): For every head shall be bald, and every beard clipped: upon all the hands shall be cuttings, and upon the loins sackcloth.

Isaiah 15:2 (Parallel theme): He is gone up to Bajith, and to Dibon, the high places, to weep: Moab shall howl over Nebo, and over Medeba: on all their heads shall be baldness, and every beard cut off.

Jeremiah 16:6 (Parallel theme): Both the great and the small shall die in this land: they shall not be buried, neither shall men lament for them, nor cut themselves, nor make themselves bald for them: