

# Leviticus 19:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Ye shall fear every man his mother, and his father, and keep my sabbaths: I am the LORD your God.

## Analysis

---

**Ye shall fear every man his mother, and his father, and keep my sabbaths: I am the LORD your God.**

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).

What Leviticus portrayed through types and shadows, Christ fulfilled in reality through His incarnation, perfect life, atoning death, and resurrection.

## 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

tabernacle's design parallels ancient Near Eastern temple architecture, yet its portable nature and absence of divine images distinguished it from pagan temples.

## Related Passages

---

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

---

1. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?
2. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?
3. In what practical ways should this verse influence your church life, family relationships, or personal integrity?

## Interlinear Text

---

אֵשׁ	אִמּוֹ	אָבִיו	תִּירָאוּ	וְאֶת	שַׁבָּתֵי י	תִּשְׁמְרוּ
every man	his mother	and his father	Ye shall fear	H853	my sabbaths	and keep
H376	H517	H1	H3372		H7676	H8104
אֲנִי	יְהוָה	אֱלֹהֵיכֶם:				
H589	I am the LORD	your God				
	H3068	H430				

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Exodus 20:12** (References God): Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

**Exodus 20:8** (Parallel theme): Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

**Hebrews 12:9** (Parallel theme): Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?

**Proverbs 30:17** (Parallel theme): The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it.

**Leviticus 11:44** (References God): For I am the LORD your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I am holy: neither shall ye defile yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

**Isaiah 58:13** (References Lord): If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words:

**Proverbs 23:22** (Parallel theme): Hearken unto thy father that begat thee, and despise not thy mother when she is old.

**Proverbs 30:11** (Parallel theme): There is a generation that curseth their father, and doth not bless their mother.

**Exodus 21:17** (Parallel theme): And he that curseth his father, or his mother, shall surely be put to death.

**Exodus 16:29** (References Lord): See, for that the LORD hath given you the sabbath, therefore he giveth you on the sixth day the bread of two days; abide ye every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on the seventh day.