

# Leviticus 20:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

## Analysis

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**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.**

This verse falls within the section on **Penalties for Disobedience**. Punishments for violations of sexual and religious laws, emphasizing the seriousness of sin in God's holy community.

Leviticus 17:11 declares 'the life of the flesh is in the blood,' establishing blood's sacred role in atonement, pointing to Christ's blood shed for redemption.

Every sacrifice and ritual in Leviticus points forward to Jesus Christ, who fulfills the entire sacrificial system as both perfect sacrifice and eternal high priest.

## Historical Context

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Punishments for violations of sexual and religious laws, emphasizing the seriousness of sin in God's holy community. 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

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. What practical steps can you take this week to apply the principles taught in this verse?
2. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?
3. How does this verse point to Christ, and how does that deepen your faith and gratitude?

## Interlinear Text

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וְאִישׁ	אִשָּׁה	יֹשֶׁבֶת	אֶת	אִשְׁתּוֹ	אָבִיו	עָרְוָה
And the man	H834	that lieth	H854	wife	his father's	nakedness
H376		H7901		H802	H1	H6172
אָבִיו	גִּלָּהּ	יוּמָתוֹ	יוּמָתוֹ	שְׁנֵיהֶם	דְּמֵיהֶם	
his father's	hath uncovered	be put to death	be put to death	both	their blood	
H1	H1540	H4191	H4191	H8147	H1818	
בָּם:						
H0						

## Additional Cross-References

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**Deuteronomy 27:23** (Parallel theme): Cursed be he that lieth with his mother in law. And all the people shall say, Amen.

**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.

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