

# Leviticus 20:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy mother's sister, nor of thy father's sister: for he uncovereth his near kin: they shall bear their iniquity.

## Analysis

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**And thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy mother's sister, nor of thy father's sister: for he uncovereth his near kin: they shall bear their iniquity.**

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.

Hebrews 9-10 explains how Christ's once-for-all sacrifice supersedes the repeated Levitical offerings, providing permanent cleansing from sin.

## 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 sacrificial texts from cultures surrounding Israel demonstrate the widespread practice of animal sacrifice, but Israel's system uniquely emphasized moral atonement over magical efficacy.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?
2. In what practical ways should this verse influence your church life, family relationships, or personal integrity?
3. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of sin, the cost of redemption, or the beauty of holiness?

## Interlinear Text

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ל א	אָב יִבְ	וְאִחַ וְת	אִמֶּךָ	וְאִחַ וְת	וְעָרְוֹ ת
H3808	nor of thy father's	sister	of thy mother's	sister	the nakedness
	H1	H269	H517	H269	H6172
עֲוֹנָם	הֶעֱכָרָה	שְׂאֵר וְ	אֶת כִּי	תִגְלֶה	
their iniquity	for he uncovereth	his near kin		And thou shalt not uncover	
H5771	H6168	H7607	H853	H1540	
					יִשְׂאוּ:
					they shall bear
					H5375

## Additional Cross-References

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**Leviticus 18:6** (Parallel theme): None of you shall approach to any that is near of kin to him, to uncover their nakedness: I am the LORD.

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