### Leviticus

## Chapter 18

1Then the Lord spoke to Moses and said:  
  
 2‘Speak to the children of IsraEl and tell them [this]:  
  
 ‘I am Jehovah your God...  
  
 ‘3So, you must not do the things that were done in Egypt where you [used to] live, or follow the ways of the [people in] the land of CanaAn where I’m taking you… Don’t do these [things] and don’t follow their rules!  
  
 4‘You must obey and follow My decisions and keep My rules… For I am Jehovah your God!  
  
 5‘You must follow all of My rules and all of My decisions… Yes, follow them in such a way [that you learn to] live by them... For I am Jehovah your God!  
  
  
 6‘No man may approach a close relative and uncover their nakedness... For I am Jehovah.  
  
 7Don’t uncover your father’s naked [body], or your mother’s naked [body]… She’s your mother, so don’t [undress] her!  
  
 8‘Nor should you uncover the naked [body] of your stepmother, because [that’s the same as uncovering] your father’s naked [body].  
  
 9‘You must not uncover the naked [body] of your sister, whether by your father or by your mother, or whether she’s born at home or somewhere else.  
  
 10‘Nor should you uncover the naked [body] of your grandchildren, because that is your own nakedness.  
  
 11‘You must not uncover the naked [body] of the daughter of your father’s woman, for she’s your step-sister by your father. So, don’t uncover her nakedness.  
  
 12‘You must not uncover the naked body of your father’s sister, because she’s your father’s closest relative.  
  
 13‘Nor may you uncover the naked [body] of your mother’s sister, for she is your mother’s closest relative.  
  
 14‘You must not uncover the naked [body] of your father’s brother, nor may you [have sex] with his woman, because she’s also related to you.  
  
 15‘You must not uncover the naked [body] of your daughter-in-law, because she’s your son’s woman… So, don’t undress her!  
  
 16‘Nor should you uncover the naked [body] of your brother’s woman, because that’s also your brother’s nakedness.  
  
 17‘You must not [uncover] the naked body of a woman and her daughter, and you may not uncover the naked [bodies] of [the woman’s] grandchildren… For that would be disrespectful, since they’re also related to you.  
  
 18‘Nor should you take your woman’s sister while [your woman is] still alive, because uncovering her sister’s nakedness would be offensive to her.  
  
  
 19‘You must not [have sex] with a woman and uncover her naked body while she’s [sleeping apart] during her [menstrual period].  
  
  
 20‘And you must not [have sex] with your neighbor’s woman and dirty yourself with her.  
  
  
 21‘You must not give your semen to serve a ruler, and you must not profane My Holy Name… For I am Jehovah.  
  
  
 22‘You must not go to bed with a male as [you would] with a female, because that’s disgusting.  
  
  
 ‘ 23Nor may you lie down and have sex with any animal, for that would pollute you... And it’s disgusting for any woman to offer herself before any animal to have sex with it.  
  
  
 24‘Don’t dirty yourselves with any of these things, because these are the things that have dirtied the nations that I’m driving out from before you… 25They’re the things that are polluting their land, and they’re the reasons why I’m paying them back for their sins!  
  
 ‘For even the land is being offended by the people who live there!  
  
 26‘You must keep all My Laws and all My rules.  
  
  
 ‘And the native peoples and the aliens that come to live among you may not do any of these disgusting things. 27Because, these are the disgusting things that the people who lived in the land before you did… And it polluted the land!  
  
 28‘So, don’t offend the land by polluting it, as did the people whom I’m driving away... 29Any person that does any of these disgusting things must be destroyed from among your people.  
  
 30‘So, you must keep My rules!  
  
 ‘You may not do any of the disgusting things that have been done [in the land] before you get there, and you must not pollute yourselves… For I am Jehovah your God!’