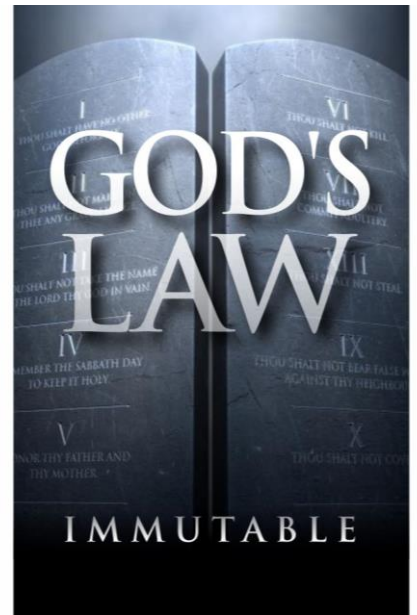


HEROES OF THE FAITH

MOSES: Forbidden Sexual Relations

Chapter 18

25 January 2023



➤ Laws against incest (vv. 1-18)

❖ “I am the LORD your God.” (vv. 1-5)

- ☐ God spoke to Moses. (v. 1)
- ☐ He commanded Moses to remind Israel He alone is God. (v. 2)
 - Genesis 2:4: **יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים** = (Yehovah Eloheem) = self existent; eternal; true God
Trinity over creation (Colossians 1:15-17)
 - John 1:1-3: The eternity of the Trinity.
 - Revelation 1:8: The names of eternal God.
 - Revelation 22:12-13: The names of the eternal One – Jesus Christ.
- ☐ Israel’s worship of holy God was to be unique. (v. 3)
 - Do not misplace your worship, like the Egyptians - - looking back.
 - Do not misplace your worship, like the Canaanites - - looking forward.
 - Do not walk in the same sin.
 - Exodus 20:3-5
 - Exodus 34:14
- ☐ Worship God. Obey God. Follow God. Love God. (v. 4)
- ☐ Live by God’s Word, His Law. The God of the universe wanted relationship with them. (v. 5)

❖ The forbidden degrees of relationship (vv. 6-18)

- ☐ Extensive intermarriage resulted in tragic abnormalities.
- ☐ It destroyed the freedom of the family to have normal love & intimacy without sexual overtones.
- ☐ In a polygamous society, these rules were quite necessary.
- ☐ Under certain circumstances, incest was common in antiquity.
- ☐ **NOTE:** For three generations prior to Moses, Egypt’s pharaohs married their half-sisters to maintain the kingship in the royal family.
 - God forbade sexual relations/marriage with close relatives – either by blood or marriage. (v. 6)
 - “Uncover nakedness” – In OT, most commonly a euphemism for sexual intercourse. At times, it can refer to voyeurism – gaining sexual pleasure from watching one who lay in nakedness, or engaging in sexual activity (Genesis 9:22-23).



- Father & mother (v. 7)
 - Do not commit voyeurism; or, have sexual relations with either parent.
- Father's wife (v. 8)
 - Do not commit voyeurism; or, have sexual relations with her.
 - It shames your father – the leader of his home. It shames your family, & God.
- Sister (v. 9)
 - Do not commit voyeurism; or, have sexual relations with her.
 - Whether she was reared in your family or in another family.
- Granddaughter (v. 10)
 - Do not commit voyeurism; or, have sexual relations with her.
 - Their shame is your shame.
- Sister (half sister) – father's wife's daughter (v. 11)
 - Do not commit voyeurism; or, have sexual relations with her.
 - This would shame your father, his wife, her daughter, you, & God.
- Aunt (father's sister) (v. 12)
 - Do not commit voyeurism; or, have sexual relations with her.
 - This would shame your father, his sister, you, & God.
- Aunt (mother's sister) (v. 13)
 - Do not commit voyeurism; or, have sexual relations with her.
 - This would shame your father, mother, her sister, you, & God.
- Aunt (father's brother's wife) (v. 14)
 - Do not commit voyeurism; or, have sexual relations with her.
 - This would shame your father, his brother, his brother's wife, you, & God.
- Daughter-n-law – son's wife (v. 15)
 - Do not commit voyeurism; or, have sexual relations with her.
 - This would shame your family, your son, his wife, you, & God.
- Brother's wife (v. 16)
 - Do not commit voyeurism; or have sexual relations with her.
 - This would shame your family, your brother, his wife, you, & God.
 - Biblical exception: Levirate Marriage
 - ✓ Genesis 38:6-11
 - ✓ Deuteronomy 25:5



- Do not commit voyeurism; or, have sexual relations with close relatives. (v. 17)
 - This sin is moral failure, and it is depraved.
- Prohibits polygamy – the practice of having more than one wife at a time. (v. 18)
 - Deuteronomy 17:14-20 (God's law concerning Israel's kings)

➤ Sexual Purity (vv. 19-30)

- ❖ You shall not commit voyeurism; or have sexual relations with a woman during her menstrual uncleanness. (v. 19)
- ❖ Do not have sexual relations with your neighbor's wife, defiling you and her. (v. 20)
- ❖ Do not sacrifice your children to a false God – Molech. There is only one God. (v. 21)
- ❖ Homosexuality (punishable by death) is an abomination before God. (v. 22; 20:13; Rom. 1:27)
- ❖ Men, nor women, should commit the perverted act of bestiality. (v. 23)
 - Men & women: Punishable by death / Animal: Killed
 - A wicked perversion of the holy sexual relationship between a man & woman in marriage.

This showed how deeply mankind had chosen to move away from God.
- ❖ God warned Israel not to sin in these perverted ways. (v. 24)
- ❖ Whether an individual or an entire nation, these sins make one unclean before God.
- ❖ When a people group defiled itself before God, God defiled their land. (v. 25)
- ❖ Sin has consequences.
- ❖ If Israel loved God, they would obey God. (v. 26)
- ❖ Whether Jew or sojourner, God's expectations (commands) were the same.
- ❖ Remember...
 - ☐ Exodus 20:1-17; Deuteronomy 5:6-22 (The Ten Commandments/Ten Words)
 - ☐ Exodus 24:14; 20:3,5
 - ☐ God created man to have relationship with Him.
 - ☐ Man's biblical purpose in life – Genesis 2:15 + 1 Corinthians 10:31.
- ❖ Before: Egypt defiled God & their land was defiled. (v. 27)
- Future: The Canaanites (the promised land) defiled God & their land was defiled.
- ❖ God's judgment rested upon the sinner and the land where he lived. (v. 28)
- ❖ The people who sinned in these heinous ways were ostracized from their people. (v. 29)
- ❖ God spoke clearly: I alone am God. Listen to Me. Obey & follow Me. (v. 30)
 - ☐ Obey God. Honor God with the way you live.
 - ☐ Worship God. Give your complete allegiance and fidelity to God.



Group Questions

- 1) Read Genesis 2:24-25. What was God's purpose in creating sex? Describe God's design for sex.

- 2) Read Genesis 2:15. Why did God place man in the garden of Eden? God created man for a clear biblical purpose. It is comprised of three tenets. The noted verse provides two tenets. Go to 1 Corinthians 10:31 to find the third tenet. With these tenets before you, explain how God views sex in marriage?

- 3) God knows man's propensity toward sin is great. He also knows man's proclivity toward sexual sin is greater. In this chapter, He forbids man's sinful passions toward incestuous sexual relationships. Review Genesis 2:15 and Exodus 34:14 to help you with your answer.

- 4) Discuss one other area God taught you from this chapter.

