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Rice Memorial MBC

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## God's Covenant with Israel

Definitions in <u>bold letters</u> are from **Strong's** Exhaustive Concordance Other definitions are from **Webster's** Dictionary, 1828 / 1913 Edition or Roget's Thesaurus – **October 8, 2017** 

## Exodus 19:16-25

**Introduction:** This chapter may be called, "**Getting READY** for the Covenant," for that is the theme of it throughout. The children of Israel come to Sinai, and Moses ascends the mountain (Exodus 19:1-3); Israel called to be a holy nation of royal priests unto God (Exodus 19:4-6); Israel makes a **solemn promise** of **faithfulness to God** (Exodus 19:7-10); the THREE-DAY period of sanctification (Exodus 19:11-15); great wonders that occurred at Sinai (Exodus 19:16-20); the people again **warned**, only Moses and Aaron called to go up **into** the **mountain** (Exodus 19:21-25) - these are the subdivisions of the chapter. (Source: https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/bcc/exodus-19.html)

**Exodus 19:1-8,** In the **third month,** when the **children** of **Israel** were **gone forth OUT** of the land of Egypt, the SAME DAY came they into the wilderness of Sinai. For they were departed from Rephidim, and were come to the desert of Sinai, and had pitched in the wilderness; and there Israel camped before the mount. And Moses went up unto God, and the LORD (Yahweh) called unto him out of the mountain, saying, Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel; **Ye have SEEN** what **I did** unto the **Egyptians,** and how **I bare you** on **eagles' wings,** and brought you unto myself.

Now therefore, if ye will **OBEY my voice** indeed, and **keep my COVENANT**, then ye shall be a **peculiar treasure** unto me above <u>all people</u>: for all the earth is mine: And ye shall be unto me a <u>kingdom</u> of **PRIESTS**, and an **HOLY nation**. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

And Moses came and called for the **elders** of the people, and laid before their FACES ALL these words which **the LORD** (Yahweh) **commanded him.** And ALL the **people answered together,** and said, <u>All</u> that the LORD (Yahweh) <u>hath spoken</u> **we WILL DO.** And Moses returned the words of the people unto the LORD (Yahweh).

**NOTE:** You shall be a peculiar treasure NOT that God was enriched by them, as a man is by his treasure, but he was pleased to value and esteem them as a man does his treasure they were precious in his sight and honourable (Isaiah 43:4) he set his love upon them (Deut. 7:7), took them under his special care and protection, as a treasure that is kept under lock and key. ...And this honour have all the saints they are unto God a peculiar people (Titus 2:14), his when he makes up his jewels.

**Titus 2:14,** Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a **peculiar (being beyond usual, i.e. SPECIAL) people,** zealous of **good works.** 

Secondly, As a people devoted to him, to his honour and service (Exodus 19:6), a kingdom of **priests**, a **holy nation**. ...Thus **all believers** are, through **Christ**, **made** to our God

**kings and priests** (Revelation 1:6), a chosen generation, a **royal priesthood**, 1 Peter 2:9. **III.** Israel's acceptance of this charter, and consent to the conditions of it. **1.** Moses faithfully delivered God's message to them (*Exodus 19:7*): He laid before their faces all those words he NOT only explained to them what God had given him in charge, but he put it to their choice whether they would accept these promises upon these terms or no. His laying it to their faces denotes his laying it to their consciences. **2.** They **readily agreed** to the **covenant proposed**.

(Source: https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/mhm/exodus-19.html)

Exodus 19:9-16, And the LORD (Yahweh) said unto Moses, Lo, I come unto thee in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with thee, and believe THEE for ever. And Moses told the words of the people unto the LORD (Yahweh). And the LORD (Yahweh) said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and sanctify them to day and to morrow, and let them **WASH** their **clothes**, And be ready against the **third day**: for the **third day** the LORD (Yahweh) will come down in the **sight of all the people** upon mount Sinai. And thou shalt set bounds unto the people round about, saying, TAKE HEED to yourselves, that ye go NOT up into the mount, or touch the border of it: whosoever toucheth the mount shall be surely put to DEATH: There shall NOT an hand touch it, but he shall surely be stoned, or shot through; whether it be beast or man, it shall NOT live: when the trumpet soundeth long, they shall come up to the mount. And Moses went down from the mount unto the people, and sanctified the people; and theu washed their clothes. And he said unto the people, Be ready against the **third day:** come NOT at your wives. And it came to pass on the **third day** in the **morning**, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that **ALL** the people that was in the camp **TREMBLED**.

**NOTE:** there were thunders, and lightnings, ... which were to awaken the attention of the people to what they were to <u>hear</u> and <u>receive</u>, and to strike their MINDS with an **AWE** (dread [fearful apprehension of danger], reverential FEAR) of the **divine Being**; and to add to the solemnity of the day, and the service of it; and to signify the obscurity and terror of the legal dispensation, and the wrath and curse that the <u>transgressors</u> the law might expect, even an horrible tempest of divine vengeance, see Hebrews 12:18. and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; or, "exceeding strong" so Ainsworth. ; being blown by the mighty angels, and by ten thousand them, with whom the Lord now descended:

**ALL the people** that was in the camp trembled, at the sound of it, it was so loud and terrible, and it so pierced their ears and their hearts: a different effect the Gospel trumpet the jubilee trumpet, the joyful sound of love, grace, and mercy, has upon sensible sinners, and on true believers: the law with its curses terrifies, the Gospel with its blessings comforts. (Source: https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/geb/exodus-19.html)

Hebrews 12:21, And so terrible (frightful [dreadful]) was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly FEAR and QUAKE:)

**Exodus 19:17-18,** And **Moses** brought forth the people OUT of the camp to MEET with God; and they stood at the <u>nether part</u> of the **mount.** And mount Sinai was altogether on a **smoke**, because the LORD (Yahweh) descended upon it in **FIRE:** and the **SMOKE** thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount **quaked** greatly.

**NOTE:** and they stood at the nether part of the mount; at the bottom of it, where bounds were set, and a fence made, that they should proceed no further, and yet near enough to hear what God said to Moses and to them.

**And Mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke,....** Not from nature, as volcanos, but for a reason after given; it seemed to be one large body of smoke, nothing else to be seen but smoke; an **emblem** (symbol) of the **darkness** of the **legal dispensation**, which was full of obscure types and figures, of dark shadows and smoky sacrifices, to which the **clear day**,

of the **Gospel dispensation** is opposed, see 2 Corinthians 3:12.

**because the Lord descended upon it in fire;** in flaming **FIRE**, as the Targums, which set the mountain on fire, and caused this prodigious (huge, astonishing) smoke; for if he, who is a consuming fire, but toucheth the hills and mountains, they smoke, Psalm 104:32. (Source: https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/geb/exodus-19.html)

Hebrews 12:22-24, But YE are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, And to Jesus the mediator of the NEW COVENANT, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh BETTER things than that of Abel.

**Exodus 19:19-24,** And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed **louder** and <u>louder</u>, Moses spake, and **God answered HIM by a voice.** And the LORD (Yahweh) came **down** upon **mount Sinai**, on the TOP of the mount: and the LORD Yahweh) **called Moses UP** to the TOP of the mount; and **Moses went up.** And the LORD (Yahweh) said unto Moses, **Go down**, charge the people, lest they break through unto the LORD (Yahweh) to gaze, and many of them perish. And let the priests also, which come near to the LORD (Yahweh), **sanctify** (**be clean (ceremonially or morally):— (be, keep) holy)** themselves, lest the LORD (Yahweh) break forth upon them. And Moses said unto the LORD (Yahweh), The people cannot come up to mount Sinai for thou chargedst us, saying, Set bounds about the mount, and **sanctify it.** And the LORD (Yahweh) said unto him, **Away**, get thee down, and thou shalt COME UP, **thou, and Aaron with thee:** but **let NOT** the **priests** and the **people** break through to come up unto the LORD (Yahweh), lest he break forth upon them.

**NOTE:** No sooner had Moses got up a little way towards the top of the mount than he was sent down again to keep the people from breaking through to gaze, Exodus 19:21. Even the priests or princes, the heads of the houses of their fathers, who officiated for their respective families, and therefore are said to come near to the Lord at other times, must now **keep their distance**, and **conduct themselves** with a great deal of **caution**. Moses pleads that they needed NOT to have any further orders given them, effectual care being taken already to prevent any intrusions, Exodus 19:23. But God, who knew their **wilfulness** (stubbornness; wrongheadedness) and **presumption** (unreasonable adventurousness), and what was now in the **hearts** of SOME of them, hastens him down with this in charge, that neither the priests nor the people should offer to force the lines that were set, to come up unto the Lord, but Moses and Aaron on, the men whom God **delighted** to **honour (**GLORIFY).

(Source: https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/mhm/exodus-19.html)

**Psalms 84:11** ... the LORD (Yahweh) will **give GRACE and <u>GLORY</u>**: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

**Thought 1.** Most Christians believe Yahweh wants "ALL the GLORY." But, this is one of many verses that reveal when we give him the glory he's due, he's GIVES US GLORY. Here, we see Yahweh chose to put "GLORY" upon Moses and Aaron.

**Psalms 29:2,** Give unto the LORD (Yahweh) the **GLORY due** unto his name; worship the LORD (Yahweh) in the beauty of holiness.

Exodus 19:25, So Moses went down unto the people, and spake unto them.

**NOTE:** So Moses went down to the people,.... As the Lord commanded him: and spake unto them: charging them to keep their distance, and NOT presume to pass the line he had drawn, or the foss or fence he had MADE... (Source: https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/geb/exodus-19.html)