

LESSON: GOD CONFIRMS THE COVENANT — October 18, 2020

INTRODUCTION:

Chapter 23:20-23 God had already given the Ten Commandments, but there are other laws and rules of being fair and kind; the Sabbath day and year seven; and the three annual feasts God had to emphasize to Moses (20:21-22) for the people. We now come to God's promise as He gets them prepared to go into the Promise Land. He makes sure they understand the severity of what is going to take place. God sends an Angel before them to keep them in the right path to bring them into the right place He's prepared for them. So, He says *"Beware of Him and obey His voice; don't provoke Him, for He's the One that will not pardon your transgressions!"* Why? - *"Because My Name is in Him."* This is a very powerful statement! So we see **obedience** is required of the Israelites, for the promises to be fulfilled at the prepared time. God says If you indeed obey His voice and do all that God speaks. He will be an enemy unto their enemies, and an adversary to their adversaries. That means God will keep their enemies from harming them by being an adversary against their enemies. The Angel will go before them to bring them in to cut off the enemies.

Chapter 23:24-33 The second thing I see is **reverence to God** alone, for they are not to bow down, serve, or follow (imitate) their evil example, but their enemy's images are to be utterly overthrow and torn down (destroyed). This is where they are to utterly serve and worship the Lord God. He will bless their bread and water and will take sickness away from the midst of them; no lost in childbirth and none barren in the land, for God will bring to completion the full number of their days. God gives assurance that He will even send fear before all the people who will come to destroy them, and all that will be seen will be their backs as they're turning away. God's plan is to send hornets to drive out the Hivite, Canaanite, and the Hittite from before them, but it won't happen right away; not in the first year. Why? - Because the land would become desolate; making it a wilderness, and multiplying the beast of the field. No, it will occur little by little until His people will increase and become numerous and strong, populating to inherit the land. Israel's borders are to extend clear to the Red Sea and from the eastern deserts to the Mediterranean Sea on the west. By doing so, God Himself will deliver the inhabitants of the land unto the Israelites hand and the Israelites will drive them out! They are not to make any covenant with them nor their gods. And lastly, they are not even to dwell in the land the Lord gives them (Israelites). Why? - Lest their enemy make (persuade) them to sin against the One True God. God is not playing for He says if they do serve their gods, it will surely be a snare (a stumblingblock; an endanger; an utter disaster) to them!

LESSON: I. COVENANT AGREEMENT EXODUS 24:1-3

24:1 **And he said unto Moses, Come up unto the Lord, thou, and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel; and worship ye afar off.** God tells Moses to come up to the Lord, and then calls others like Aaron (Moses' brother), Nadab and Abihu (Aaron's sons), and 70 elders of Israel. The latter were to worship God (bow down before Him) from afar off.

24:2 **And Moses alone shall come near the Lord: but they shall not come nigh; neither shall the people go up with him.** Moses was the only one to come near the Lord, while Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy

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of the elders of Israel had to worship the LORD from a distance. The rest of the Israelite people were not permitted to go up the mountain at all.



24:3 And Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord, and all the judgments: and all the people answered with one voice, and said, All the words which the Lord hath said will we do. Now, Moses goes down from the mountain to the people and **recites** all the words the Lord had spoken to him to them; all the judgements (ordinances; legal instructions), and all the voices of the people unanimously became one voice in their reply: "*All the words which the Lord hath said will we do.*" This becomes a binding agreement between God and the people. They unanimously agree with one voice of what Moses had brought from God to them! This is a Covenant which will later be spoken of and finalized with the sprinkling of blood in verse 8. Also, be careful of what you agree to when saying Amen! Make sure your Amen is the truth of God's Word; Amen means "*So be it*"; a declaration of affirmation!

II. COVENANT CEREMONY EXODUS 24:4-8

24:4 And Moses wrote all the words of the Lord, and rose up early in the morning, and builded an altar under the hill, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. Moses commits to record down in writing everything the Lord had said. He rises early in the morning and builds an altar under the hill. He builds 12 tall stones; 1 stone for each of the 12 families (tribes) of Israel. ¹The altar would be on behalf of the LORD. And the stones would be on behalf of the tribes. The LORD and the tribes would be the two sides in the covenant.

24:5 And he sent young men of the children of Israel, which offered burnt offerings, and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen unto the Lord. And Moses sent some of the young men of the children of Israel to offer burnt offering and peace offerings of oxen unto the Lord.

24:6 And Moses took half of the blood, and put it in basons; and half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar. From the burnt offering and peace offerings, Moses takes half the blood from the slain oxen and puts it in basons, and half the blood he sprinkled on the altar.

24:7 And he took the book of the covenant, and read in the audience of the people: and they said, All that the Lord hath said will we do, and be obedient. Then Moses **read** from the **Book of the Covenant** in the audience of the people and they all agreed to become a covenant by doing and being obedient to what the Lord had said. Remember in verse 4 Moses wrote down all the words of the Lord. Well, this begins his book so the people could remember to be obedient to all that was spoken and of what they had agreed to.

24:8 And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which the Lord hath made with you concerning all these words. No doubt about it, they were not going to forget this. Thus after the reading of the covenant he takes another step to complete this: "*Moses took the blood and sprinkled it upon the people saying Behold the blood of the covenant, which the Lord hath made with you concerning all these words.*"²The blood on the altar and the blood on the people brought the covenant into effect. After this time, they must always obey everything that was in the covenant.

III. COVENANT MEAL EXODUS 24:9-11

24:9 Then went up Moses, and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel:—Now, God had called for Moses Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel to come up to the mountain

¹ <https://www.easyenglish.bible/bible-commentary/exodus-19-31-im-lbw.htm>

² <https://www.easyenglish.bible/bible-commentary/exodus-19-31-im-lbw.htm>

<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sunday-school.html>



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of the Lord. In verse 1, they were to stay at a distance.

24:10 And they saw the God of Israel: and there was under his feet as it were a paved work of a sapphire stone, and as it were the body of heaven in his clearness. This time they had a spectacular view. It says they saw the God of Israel. But, not literally seeing God; it's seeing God's glory because there is nowhere in scripture anyone has seen God and lived, not even Moses. They even see this beauty of a sapphire stone under God's feet, a paved work, as if it was a clear view of the body of heaven. God allows them to see this of Him.

24:11 And upon the nobles of the children of Israel he laid not his hand: also they saw God, and did eat and drink. After God called them up and they saw the measure of what He wanted them to see, He still did not destroy them, but, I really don't know how anyone could eat and drink after seeing the God of Israel appear to them. But, they had to have come down from the mountain to eat and drink.

SUMMARY:

God tells Moses to come up to the Lord, and then calls out other like Aaron (Moses' brother), Nadab and Abihu (Aaron's sons), and 70 elders of Israel. The latter were to worship God (bow down before Him) from a distance. Moses was the only one to come near the Lord, while Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel had to worship the LORD from a distance. And the rest of the Israelite people were not permitted to go up the mountain at all. Now, Moses goes down from the mountain to the people and recites all the words the Lord had spoken to him to them; all the judgements (ordinances; legal instructions), and all the voices of the people unanimously became one voice in their reply: "*All the words which the Lord hath said will we do.*" This becomes a binding agreement between God and the people (**24:1-3**).

Moses commits to record down in writing everything the Lord had said. He rises early in the morning and builds an altar under the hill. He builds 12 tall stones; 1 stone for each of the 12 families (tribes) of Israel. Moses sends some of the young men of the children of Israel to offer burnt offering and peace offerings of oxen unto the Lord. From the burnt offering and peace offerings, Moses takes half the blood from the slain oxen and puts it in basins, and half the blood he sprinkled on the altar. Then he read from the Book of the Covenant in the audience of the people and they all agreed to become a covenant by doing and being obedient to what the Lord had said. Thus after the reading of the covenant he takes another step to complete this: "*Moses took the blood and sprinkled it upon the people saying, 'Behold the blood of the covenant, which the Lord hath made with you concerning all these words'*" (**24:4-8**).

God had called for Moses Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel to come up to the mountain of the Lord. In verse 1, they were to stay at a distance. This time they had a spectacular view. It says they saw the God of Israel. But, not literally seeing God; it's seeing God's glory because there is nowhere in scripture anyone has seen God and lived, not even Moses. They even see this beauty of a sapphire stone under God's feet, a paved work, as if it was a clear view of the body of heaven. After God called them up, and they saw the measure of what God wanted them to see, He still did not destroy them, but, I really don't know how anyone could eat and drink after seeing the God of Israel appear to them. They ate and drank (had to be

GJW when they came down the mountain) (**24:9-11**).



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