

PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

EXODUS 19:16-25

LESSON: GOD'S COVENANT WITH ISRAEL — October 8, 2017

INTRODUCTION:

For over four hundred years, the descendants of Israel have been in Egypt's bondage. Now the process of bringing the nation into the Promised Land begins. They came to the Wilderness of Sinai or Mt. Sinai. Sinai was the place where Moses had his "Burning Bush" experience with God. It took them three months of trusting God to get to this place, led by Moses, but they finally arrived. Now, God is about to declare His great plan for the nation of Israel.

¹Exodus 19:1-4 In the third month after the sons of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt... They camped in front of the mountain of God, Mt. Sinai! Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain... tell the children of Israel... I bore you on eagles' wings, and brought you to Myself. (NAS).

²God had protected the Israelites and he had guided them. He acted like the large, powerful bird called an eagle. Eagles live in high places and they protect their young birds. Deuteronomy 32:11 describes how an eagle teaches her young birds to fly. She causes them to fall out of the nest. If they do not fly, she catches them on her wings. And she carries them, so that they do not have any injury.

³Like the young eagle, the Israelites were in their nest while in Egypt. Though they suffered hardships, disappointments, despair and oppression, they were never out of the watchful, careful eye of God. Swiftly and safely God removed them from their place of hardship and limitation, distinguishing them from all other nations, having chosen them to be a special people to Himself. Please view more on:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qfdulqhJHXk&feature=related>

He is speaking to us now, saying, "I bore you on eagle's wings." Every difficult situation is designed by God to teach us to soar, to excel. God didn't deliver Israel so they could "do their own thing," but it was so they could be God's people at their best.

Exodus 19:5-8 Moses called the elders of the people; told them all the words that the Lord had commanded him to tell; and all the people answered and said that they would obey, and they meant it. The problem was that they forgot the weakness of their flesh. God gave them three titles: "My own possession", "a kingdom of priests" and "a holy nation", all on the contingency of, if they obeyed. As the priestly order in times past, was set apart from the common mass, so were the Israelites. They were to sustain the same near relation to God.

Exodus 19:9-15 God was specific with His instructions to Moses for the people. Moses was the only one God talked to and through. And Moses would in turn tell the people all the instructions in which God had spoken. Moses was the leader, the one God put in charge to deliver His people. God was about to come down to them in a thick cloud and when He spoke to Moses, the people would be able to hear Him and believe in Moses forever. However, before they could come into God's presence, preparation had to take place, and boundaries set. They were to consecrate; sanctify themselves; and wash their garments for two days. They were to be totally and completely clean. They could not touch the mountain, for they would surely

¹Exodus Kay Lecture Lesson 7: Ch's 19-20 Why the Commandments When I Can't Keep Them?

²<https://www.easyenglish.bible/bible-commentary/exodus-19->

³<http://crossheart.org/hearttoheart.html>

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

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be stoned or shot; whether beast or man shall not live. When the ram's horn sounds a long blast, they shall come up to the mountain. Lastly, *"He said to the people, "Be ready for the third day; do not go near a woman."*

LESSON:

I. ASSEMBLY Exodus 19:16-19

19:16 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.

Three is the symbol of the Godhead, so, in the morning on the third day there the roar of thunder and lightning flashing and a thick cloud upon the mountain. This was where God was to meet His people and there was a great expectation of the people to see Him. The very loud blast of a trumpet sounded in the camp as told in verse 13. In the Old Testament the trumpet blast signified an alarm of war, a call to assemble, or a command to march. This was a call to assemble. What an awesome sight on the mountain, but the people didn't quite understand it, for it brought fear as they trembled at what was happening before them. The unusual was happening, for it was not the usual phenomena from volcanic activity. It was the presence of God!

19:17 And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet with God; and they stood at the nether part of the mount. God was about to introduce Himself to His people. The people had prepared themselves and Moses led them out of the camp and they stood at the foot of the mountain to meet God.

19:18 And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly. Now Mount Sinai was all enveloped in smoke because the Lord descended upon it in fire; and its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked violently. His appearance was surely powerful.

19:19 And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice. When the sound or blast of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke and God answered him with thunder.

II. ADMONITION Exodus 19:20-22

19:20 And the Lord came down upon mount Sinai, on the top of the mount: and the Lord called Moses up to the top of the mount; and Moses went up. God showed up by coming down or descending upon Mount Sinai. He summons the leader Moses to come up the Mount so He can talk to him, and *"Moses went up."*

19:21 And the Lord said unto Moses, Go down, charge the people, lest they break through unto the Lord to gaze, and many of them perish. With such a mass of people, God reiterated again to Moses with a warning: go down and warn and charge the people to obey the instructions about the Mount of God, in case they tried to break through to come up to gaze upon Him for themselves, for many would perish. They were not even supposed to touch the Mountain.

19:22 And let the priests also, which come near to the Lord, sanctify themselves, lest the Lord break forth upon them. The charge was also given to the priests whose duty was to come near God. They were to sanctify themselves unto God in the same manner as the people were instructed and not to come up, lest the Lord break forth; vent His anger upon them. No one was excluded!

III. ASCENT Exodus 19:23-25

19:23 And Moses said unto the Lord, The people cannot come up to mount Sinai: for thou chargedst us, saying, Set bounds about the mount, and sanctify it. It seems as if Moses didn't really want to go back down to the people, for he tells God that the people can't climb; ascend up the Mount for You God has charged, and admonished them to set boundaries around the Mount, and render it sacred (19:12-13). This is really a test for Moses. God's message was that the

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people learn to respect Him and reverence Him; respect the holiness of His presence on Mount Sinai. So far Moses has gone up the mountain to see God three times (v3, 8, 20), then came back down to talk to the people.

19:24 And the Lord 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, lest he break forth upon them.** God did not want to hear anything else Moses had to say, so He tells Moses to hurry up and get down the mountain; just do what he's told to do. God being all seeing and all knowing knows what He's said, but we as human tend to forget. So, the Lord tells Moses to hasten down and bring his brother Aaron up with him, but not to let the priests and the people intrude or press through the bounds to climb up the Mount, lest He break forth upon them destroying them.

19:25 So Moses went down unto the people, and spake unto them. Moses went down and communicated these boundaries to the people again. So, when Moses descended this time, he was to return with Aaron after talking to the people. Their leadership was thereby confirmed.

SUMMARY:

In the morning on the third day there was an expectation of the people to see God, but they were met with the roar of thunder and lightning flashing, a thick cloud upon the mountain and a very loud blast of a trumpet sound in the camp. But all of that made the people tremble. Moses leads them out of the camp, and they stood at the foot of the mountain to meet God. Now Mount Sinai was all enveloped in smoke because the Lord descended upon it in fire; and its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked violently, when the voice; the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder. Moses then spoke, and God answered him by a voice (thunder) **(19:16-19)**.

God's presence came down descending upon Mount Sinai as He summoned Moses to come up the Mount so He could talk with him. And "Moses went up" to God and was given a charge for the people. as well as the priests, whose duty was to come near God in case they tried to break through to come up to gaze upon Him for themselves, for many would perish. The priests were to sanctify themselves unto God lest the Lord break forth and vent His anger upon them. **(19:20-22)**.

Moses tells the LORD that the people cannot come up to Mount Sinai, for they were warned to set boundaries around the mountain, and to declare it sacred **(19:12-13)**. So, the Lord told Moses to hasten, away, get down and bring his brother Aaron up with him. But, don't let the priests and the people intrude or press through the bounds to climb up to the Lord, lest God break forth upon them destroying them. So Moses went down to the people and communicated their boundaries again **(19:23-25)**.