



# God's Story

*Putting the Puzzle Together*

## **The Giving of the Law**

Vertical Life Church

# Review

- Chosen by God for a purpose
  - He wanted them to be a witness
  - He wanted them to be a light to the nations
  - Chosen to be recipients of God's word
  - Proclaim God's word by living it
- Finger of God associated with the kingdom (Exo 8:19, Psa 8:3, Luk 11:20)

# God Tests the Jews

- Wilderness of Sin, they grumbled because they were hungry (Exo 16:2-4)
- At Rephidim, they tested God because they were thirsty (Exo 17:2)
- At Sinai they worshipped another god (Exo 32)



# God Warns the Next Generation

- The purpose for the manna was to teach that the Word of God is more precious than food (Deut 8:2-6)
- The purpose for the thirst was to teach that you should not test the Lord your God (Deut 6:16-17)
- The purpose for the judgment at Sinai was to teach that God will not tolerate other gods before Him (Deut 6:14-15)

# God's Testing

- God tests to prove
  - If we pass it builds faith
  - If we fail, we learn and we grow
  - 40 is the number of testing
- Jesus was tested (Heb 5:7-8)
- The tests of the Jews in the wilderness were repeated on Jesus in the wilderness.
  - Tested with hunger (Mat 4:3-4)
  - Tempted to put God to the test (Mat 4:6-7)
  - Tempted to worship another god (Mat 4:8-10)



# 10 Commandments – Language of Love

- You shall have no other gods before Me
- Don't make images of any gods
- Don't take my name in vain
- Remember the Sabbath Day

# Mosaic Law

- Unlike Abrahamic covenant, Mosaic covenant is two way (Deut 30:19-20)
- Outgrowth of Abrahamic covenant – not replacement (Exo 6:2-8)
- Law = Torah = “teaching”
- Three categories of laws:
  - Moral commands – reflection of God’s character
  - Ceremonial ritual – how to approach God
  - Civil order – what it takes to become a nation

# Purposes of the Law

- Provide government and separation from the Gentiles
- Restrain evil and define sin (Rom 2:14-15; Rom 7:7)
- Instruction in righteous and fruitful living
- Tutor to lead us to Christ
  - Shows us our need (Gal 3:19)
  - Points us to Christ (Gal 3:23-24)
  - Paints a picture of atonement





# What the Law was Not

- Not a means of salvation (Gal 2:16; 21)
- Not a replacement for the Abrahamic covenant (Gal 3:16-18)

# Giving of the Law (Exo 19)

- Law was meant to be instructive
- People needed to learn about God's holiness
- People were not allowed to approach or touch the mountain
- Thunder, lightning, thick smoke on mtn (Exo 19:16-19)
- People separated from God in fear (Exo 20:18-19)
- God answered Moses in thunder (*kolot*)
- Rabbis maintained that God spoke in 70 languages (Shabbat 88b)

# Giving of the Law

- Moses on Sinai 40 days receiving the Law
- People turned from fear of God back to idols (Exo 32)
- Moses judged the people & 3,000 were killed (Exo 32:26-28)
- God would not go in their midst anymore (Exo 33:1-4)

# Giving of the Spirit (Acts 2:1-6)

- 7 Feasts described – 3 required pilgrimage
- Shavuot was 2<sup>nd</sup> First Fruits feast (Pentecost)
- Jews also celebrated giving of the Law on Shavuot
- Disciples gathered together at Temple (Mt Zion)
- Loud sound as of mighty rushing wind filled “the house”
- Fire appeared and then separated & rested on each
- Pilgrims hearing the noise gathered toward the sound