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**9/18/24**

**Exodus 19**

### **Sermon Recap**

In the message, Jason discusses the significance of the Wilderness of Sinai, where the Israelites camped after their exodus from Egypt, highlighting that this location was not just a stop but a foundational destination in their spiritual journey. Ultimately, we are encouraged as believers to approach God confidently, acknowledging His holiness while recognizing that access is made possible through Jesus, who invites us into a deeper relationship with Him.

### **Discussion Questions**

Why do you think God chose Mount Sinai as the place for Israel to receive the Law, and what does this location symbolize in the relationship between God and His people?

- The message discusses how Mount Sinai was a significant destination for the Israelites where they camped for a year to receive God's commandments.
- Can you think of places in your life where you feel close to God? What makes those places special to you?

How does the idea of being a 'kingdom of priests and a holy nation' reflect on our identity as believers today?

- The message explains that Israel was meant to be a unique representation of God to others, similar to how believers today are called to be holy.
- In what ways can you act as a representative of God in your school or community?

What do the conditions of obedience mentioned in Exodus 19:5 mean for the Israelites, and how does it compare to the unconditional blessings of Christ?

- Israel's blessings were conditional on their obedience, while the blessings of Christ are unconditional.
- How does understanding this difference impact your view of your relationship with God?

Why is it important for us to prepare ourselves spiritually before coming into God's presence, as discussed in the section about consecrating the people in Exodus 19:10-11?

- To commune with a holy God, the people needed to be prepared and set apart.
- What are some practices you can put in place to prepare your heart and mind when you spend time with God?

How can we apply the principle of boundaries in our relationship with God, like the boundaries set around Mount Sinai in Exodus 19:12?

- The message points out that God established boundaries for the people to protect them and help them understand His holiness.
- What boundaries do you think might be helpful in your life to keep your relationship with God healthy and strong?

### **Prayer Prompts**

- Pray for guidance to apply the sermon's teachings throughout the week.

- Ask God to help each participant deepen their spiritual journey.
  - Pray for understanding of how to worship in spirit and truth in daily life.
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### **Teaching Notes:**

They have come to their first real destination.  
They will be here for 57 chapters until Numbers 10. A year.

It was the place God promised He would bring Moses to.  
3:12 So He said, “I will certainly be with you. And this *shall be* a sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.”

John 4:19 The woman said to Him, “Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. 20 Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you *Jews* say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.” 21 Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. 22 You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. 23 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. 24 God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

In the beginning, we often need clear signs & directions.

Worshiping spiritually & truthfully...  
...are keys to maturing in a real & right relationship w/God.

2 For they had departed from Rephidim, had come to the Wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness. So Israel camped there before the mountain. 3 And Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel:

It is probably around 7k feet & is a 2-3 hour hike to go up.  
Moses will go up and down it at 80 years old 7 times.

4 ‘You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and *how* I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Myself. 5 Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth *is* Mine. 6 And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’  
These *are* the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel.”

Moses is the mediator and speaks to the people for the Lord.

The blessings of Israel were often conditional.

In contrast, the blessings of Christ are unconditional.

Priests uniquely know God, serve God, and represent God.

And the answer is similar...we are not Israel, but we are holy.

1 Peter 2:9 But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

7 So Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before them all these words which the Lord commanded him. 8 Then all the people answered together and said, "All that the Lord has spoken we will do." So Moses brought back the words of the people to the Lord.

This is the normal response when we don't know ourselves.

9 And the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, I come to you in the thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and believe you forever."  
So Moses told the words of the people to the Lord.

God regularly appears in a cloud.

10 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes. 11 And let them be ready for the third day. For on the third day the Lord will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people.

God gives them time to get ready.

12 You shall set bounds for the people all around, saying, 'Take heed to yourselves *that* you do *not* go up to the mountain or touch its base. Whoever touches the mountain shall surely be put to death. 13 Not a hand shall touch him, but he shall surely be stoned or shot *with an arrow*; whether man or beast, he shall not live.' When the trumpet sounds long, they shall come near the mountain."

14 So Moses went down from the mountain to the people and sanctified the people, and they washed their clothes. 15 And he said to the people, "Be ready for the third day; do not come near *your wives*."

Sex is a normal part of married life...

...but there are times when you set apart your normal life...

...and seek the Lord with purpose in prayer.

16 Then it came to pass on the third day, in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud, so that all the people who *were* in the camp trembled.

Let's not miss the fact the Law is...

...especially significant because of the One who gives it.

17 And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. 18 Now Mount Sinai *was* completely in smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly. 19 And when the blast of the trumpet sounded long and became louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him by voice.

This is the core of a relationship.

Speak, be heard, and get a response.

20 Then the Lord came down upon Mount Sinai, on the top of the mountain. And the Lord called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.

We can't reach God without Him coming down to us.

Differences between Hebrews 12 and Exodus:

- Sinai speaks of fear and terror, Zion of love and forgiveness.
- Sinai is in a dry desert, but Zion is the city of the Living God.
- Sinai, with all its fear and power is earthly; but the Mount Zion we come to is heavenly and spiritual.
- At Sinai, only Moses could come and meet God; at Zion, there is an innumerable company, a general assembly.
- Sinai had guilty men in fear, but Zion has just men made perfect.
- At Sinai, Moses is the mediator, but at Zion, Jesus the mediator.
- Sinai put forth an Old Covenant, ratified by the blood of animals; Zion has a New Covenant, ratified by the blood of God's precious Son.
- Sinai was all about barriers and exclusion; Zion is all about invitation.
- Sinai is all about Law, Zion is all about grace.

21 And the Lord said to Moses, "Go down and warn the people, lest they break through to gaze at the Lord, and many of them perish. 22 Also let the priests who come near the Lord consecrate themselves, lest the Lord break out against them."

23 But Moses said to the Lord, "The people cannot come up to Mount Sinai; for You warned us, saying, 'Set bounds around the mountain and consecrate it.'"

24 Then the Lord said to him, "Away! Get down and then come up, you and Aaron with you. But do not let the priests and the people break through to come up to the Lord, lest He break out against them." 25 So Moses went down to the people and spoke to them.

CS Lewis wrote about Aslan, the lion king.

He is not safe, but He is good.

Our part in the relationship:

- receive God's word.
- be set apart.
- be cleansed.
- come after the third day.
- respect God's boundary.
- restrain the flesh.
- know we come to a holy God.