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Exodus 24

The people have received the Ten Commandments, as they have heard the voice of God, at the foot of Mount Horeb or Sinai.

They have also received the judgments God had prescribed for the social and civil lives in community.

Now God once again speaks to Moses regarding the covenant the people were about to enter into with Him.

24:1-8 The ratification of the covenant.

24:1-2 The instruction of God to Moses.

- 1) God order Moses once again to come up to the LORD. vs. 1a-b
* The implication is that Moses had come down from the mountain!
- 2) Moses was to bring others with him. vs. 1c-e
 - a) The future priestly family, Aaron, his two sons, Nadab and Abihu. vs. 1c-d
 - b) The seventy elders of Israel. vs. 1e
- 3) The purpose was that they worship but from afar. vs. 1f
 - a) They were approaching a holy God.

- b) They were sinful men.
- 4) The privilege place of Moses. vs. 2
 - a) God declared that Moses alone could come near the LORD. vs. 2a
 - b) The rest could not the sharp contrast is evident by the word “but”. vs. 2b
 - c) The further limitation is stated, “Nor shall the people go up with him”. vs. 2c
 - 1)) The message was clear, God made a clear distinction between Moses and all other men of Israel.
 - 2)) This was necessary, God knowing the heart of man. Jer. 17:9

24:3-4 The preparation of the people.

- 1) The man Moses had given to the people the revelation of God. vs. 3a
 - a) The text would seem to say Moses was doing it at that time but he had already done it.
 - b) Notice it says that he told the people two things.
 - 1) All the words, the Ten Commandments, which in reality they heard from the voice of God. Ex. 20:1-17, 22
 - 2) All the judgments, the social laws and cases for their every day life, as a community. Ex. 21-23

- 2) The entire congregation pledged their whole-hearted obedience to the words of God. vs. 3b-c
 - a) All the people answered in unanimous agreement, with one voice. vs. 3b
 - b) Their words are recorded, “All the words which the LORD has said we will do.” vs. 3
 - * These the words of the people in chapter nineteen. Ex. 19:7-8
- 3) Moses had written all the words of the LORD, in chapter nineteen. vs. 4
- 4) Moses then built an alter at the foot of the mountain, to represent the twelve tribes of Israel. vs. 4b-d

24:5-6 The preparation for the sacrifices.

- 1) Moses sent young men he chose who offered burnt offerings. vs. 5a
 - * Burnt offering are symbolic of dedication and consecration. Lev. 1
- 2) These young men would also offer peace offerings of oxen to the LORD. vs. 5b
 - * Peace offerings were symbolic of fellowship with God. Lev. 3
- 3) Moses then acted as the officiating High Priest. vs. 6
 - a) He took half of the blood and placed it in basins. vs. 6a
 - b) He took the other half of the blood and sprinkled it on the alter. vs. 6b

- 1)) gave to Adam and Eve the principle of atonement, blood sacrifice. Gen. 3:21
- 2)) The first born were spared through blood on the door post in Egypt. Ex. 13
- 3) Later in the codifying of the law, God will tell them that the life of the flesh is in the blood and He had given it to them for an atonement for the soul. Lev. 17:11

24:7-8 The consecration of the people into the covenant.

- 1) Moses read the Book of the Covenant for the people to hear. vs. 7a
- 2) Their response again was, “All that the LORD has said we will do, and be obedient.” vs. 7b-d
- 3) Moses then proceeded to declare two things to the people having sprinkled the blood on the people. vs. 8
 - a) He declared, “This is the blood of the covenant which the LORD has made with you.”
 - b) He defined the covenant by saying, “according to all these words” the word of God.

24:9-11 **The manifestation of God to the leaders.**

24:9 The representatives of the people present.

- 1) Moses, the prophet of God. vs. 9a
- 2) Aaron and his two sons, Nadab and Abihu. vs. 9b
- 3) The seventy elders of Israel. vs. 9c

24:10 The personal encounter and privilege.

- 1) All the men present saw the God of Israel. vs. 10
 - a) The scriptures are clear that no man can see God and live, for He dwells in a light that is unapproachable. Ex. 33:20, 1Tim. 6:16
 - b) The men saw a theophany, an appearance of God, in a form that veiled His person.
 - c) God is Spirit, He has no physical body.
- 2) The description is specific. vs. 10b-c
 - a) Under His feet were a paved work of sapphire stone. vs. 10b
 - b) It was like the very heavens in its clarity. vs. 10c
 - * The similarity can be seen in the visions of the throne of God given to Isaiah, Ezekiel and John. Is. 6, Ezk. 1, 10, Rev. 4-5
- 3) The outcome confirmed God acceptance of the rulers. vs. 11

- a) They did not die, that is what is meant by, “He did not lay His hand” on them. vs. 11a
- b) They did see a theophany to verify the presence of God and they communed with God by eating. vs. 11b

24:12-18 The communion of Moses with God for forty days.

24:12-14 The call of Moses to approach God.

- 1) The LORD spoke to Moses directly. vs. 12
 - a) To come up to Him on the mountain. vs. 12a
 - b) God would give to Moses tablets of stones and the law and commandments He had written. vs. 12b
 - c) That Moses might teach them to the people. vs. 12c
- 2) Moses obeyed God and took his assistant Joshua. vs. 13
 - a) Joshua was being groomed to take Moses place but he did not know it.
 - b) Joshua is called Moses’ assistant
 - * 4 times He is called this. Ex. 33:11, Num. 11:28, Josh. 1:1
- 3) Moses delegated his leadership in his absence. vs. 14

- a) He told them to wait till he returned.
vs. 14a-b
- b) He place Aaron and Hur over the
seventy. vs.14c
- c) Both of them were to handle any
difficulties and they were to
accompany them. vs. 14d-e

24:15-18 The encounter of Moses with God.

- 1) Moses ascended up the mountain, as a
cloud covered the mountain. vs. 15
* The cloud led them out of Egypt.
- 2) The presence of God was on the
mountain. vs. 16
 - a) The glory of the LORD is said to have
been resting on Mount Sinai. vs. 16a
 - b) The cloud covered the Mount six
days. vs. 16b
 - c) The seventh day, God called Moses
out of the midst of the cloud. vs 16c
* No matter how much God uses us,
we must wait on God and He alone
decides how long we wait for His
answer!
- 3) The peoples view of the Mount was
intimidating. vs. 17
 - a) The sight of the glory of the LORD
was like a consuming fire on the top
of the mountain.
* “Fr our God *is* a consuming fire.”
Heb. 12:29

- b) The witnesses were the children of
Israel.
* It is a fearful thing to fall into the
hands of the **living God.**”
Heb.10:31
- 4) Moses spent a long duration with God. vs.
18
 - a) Moses went up in the midst of the
cloud up the mountain. vs. 18a
 - b) Moses was there for forty days and
forty nights. vs. 18b