

Mountain Views: Mt. Sinai

I. The View from Mt. Sinai (Exodus 19:1-8, 20:1-3)

1. Key Players:

- **Moses** - born a Hebrew but raised as Egyptian royalty; struggled with identity crisis and feelings of inadequacy but developed one of the deepest friendships with God mentioned in the Bible
"The LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend." Exodus 33:11 (NIV)
- **"Children of Israel"** - the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob who have lived in slavery in Egypt for the past 430 years (Exodus 12:40). They also suffer from an identity crisis because even though their ancestors worshiped God, these generations have grown up influenced by the culture and gods of Egypt.
- **God** - Identifies Himself as "I AM" and "the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob". He displays great power and love in freeing and choosing the Israelites as His own special people.

[God] "Now if you obey Me fully and keep My covenant, then out of all nations you will be My treasured possession. Although the whole earth is Mine, you will be for Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation." These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites." Exodus 19:5-6 (NIV)

2. Key Events On Mt. Sinai:

- Burning Bush (Exodus 3)
- Ten Commandments (Exodus 20)
- Golden Calf fiasco (Exodus 32)

II. What Can We Learn from Mt. Sinai?

1. CULTURE is almost always an UNDERTOW pulling us away from God.

"Then I said to them, 'Each of you, get rid of the vile images you are so obsessed with. Do not defile yourselves with the idols of Egypt, for I am the LORD your God.' But they rebelled against Me and would not listen. They did not get rid of the vile images they were obsessed with or forsake the idols of Egypt." Ezekiel 20:7-8a (NLT)

"Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will." Romans 12:2 (NIV)

2. You are what you choose TO DO.

"When the people saw how long it was taking Moses to come back down the mountain, they gathered around Aaron. 'Come on,' they said, 'make us some gods who can lead us. We don't know what happened to this fellow Moses, who brought us here from the land of Egypt.'" Exodus 32:1 (NLT)

3. Be careful who you LISTEN TO.

"And they said to each other, 'We should choose a leader and go back to Egypt.'" Numbers 14:4 (NIV)

"Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life." Proverbs 4:23 (NLT)

4. Anchor your identity IN JESUS.

Q: How do you finish this sentence? "I am a _____."

"Now if you obey Me fully and keep My covenant, then out of all nations you will be My treasured possession. Although the whole earth is Mine, you will be for Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation." These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites." Exodus 19:5-6 (NIV)

"All glory to Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by shedding His blood for us. He has made us a Kingdom of priests for God His Father. All glory and power to Him forever and ever! Amen." Revelation 1:5b-6 (NLT)

"See how very much our Father loves us, for He calls us His children, and that is what we are! But the people who belong to this world don't recognize that we are God's children because they don't know Him." 1 John 3:1 (NLT)