

Exodus 19-21 - 28 May 2020

“The Giving Of The Law”

Part 1 of 2

Introduction

Exodus is the story of the Redemption & God’s salvation as seen thru the creation of the nation Israel.

God has delivered them out of Egyptian slavery & from the pursuing Pharaoh & his armies.

God intends to grow them, 1 step at a time, into a people that know how to trust Him and his ways.

To grow them, He’ll teach them who He is thru His perfect Law.

This will indeed teach them also who they are!

Man comes infinitely short of being perfect as God is.

Tonight, we’ll get 3 lessons from God’s Law showing we need Him to save us, we can’t do it.

#1 – God’s Law shows us True Holiness (Chap 19)

Chap 19:1-8 – *Verbal Agreement To Obey God’s Law*

Read Vs 1-6

1. Our saving God promises they’ll stand out as a special treasure IF THEY OBEY HIM.
 - a. To obey is better than to sacrifice
2. True holiness is to be set apart as different
3. Same blessing is to us – if obey, then special
 - a. Read I Pet 2:9-10
4. The great motivator to obey is love
 - a. Read John 14:15 – “If ye love Me, keep...”
 - b. “I’ve stop asking if this is right or wrong & started asking will this please my Father”.

Read Vs 7-8

1. Agreement to obey, happens again at end Exo 24
2. HUGE commitment! They’ll learn thru knowledge, but also thru experience to obey, thus bringing holiness. (Read Psm 119:71)

Chap 19:9-15 – *Holiness For Preparing To Receive God*

Read Vs 9-11

1. Vs 9 – God always authenticated those who record His Word. He Word is holy and eternal.
2. People to show holiness & wait for 3 days.

Read Vs 12-13

1. Presenting God's standard/Law is designed to show the limit of what man's effort can do.
2. Israel gets closer to God, but not fully.
 - a. Even then, it's only b/c He descended!!
 - b. Difference between Judeo-Christianity & all other religions? Man can't ascend, God descended!

Read Vs 14-15

1. There's an element of focus on Him that God is asking for, similar to I Cor 7:5 – “give to prayer”
2. Holiness isn't just being apart from sin; it's getting closer to the greatness of God's presence.

Chap 19:16-18 – *The Lord Descends*

Read Vs 16-18

1. The awesome grace of God to condescend to man, knowing we can't get to Him.

Chap 19:19-25 – *A Special Offer For Moses To Come*

Read Vs 19-20

1. Moses is here called into God's presence.

Read Vs 21-25

1. The Lord knows the people will already be tempted to break the boundary law and come.
 - a. Sin by curiosity – “I wonder what it's like”
 - b. Sin by pride – “Can't tell me not to go up”
 - c. But it's sin none the less
2. Vs 23 – Moses naively thought they would obey.
3. They'll need to learn by experience, they're not holy like God is. (Re-Read Psm 119:71)

#2 – God’s Law shows us the Way To Freedom (Chap 20)

Read Chap 20:1-2

1. Jesus liberated them to freedom from Egypt
2. Law designed to lead into freedom from sin.
 - a. Law isn’t freedom, it’s bondage, but it points up to freedom in Christ.
 - b. Read Gal 5:1 – The bondage he’s talking about is the Law
 - c. Homework–Read Rom 6-8 (Read Rom 8:2)

Read Chap 20:3-11 – *Commandments toward God*

1. Vs 3 – What’s the passion of your life that is prioritized in your decision-making?
2. Vs 4 – Any physical thing to represent God will automatically be cheapening who He is.
3. Vs 5 – “Sins of the father”
 - a. Key phrase – “of them that hate Me”
 - b. Cycle perpetuated w/o grace intervening.
4. Vs 7 – “take” is carry – Read Eph 4:1

5. 7 days is a week and ends w/ Sabbath. Why?
 - a. Why year, month, day? Astronomical
 - b. Why a week? God created that way

Read Chap 20:12-17 – *Commandments toward others*

1. Vs 13 – Distinction between murder & killing.
2. Jesus said in Matt 5 these Laws were to be used in action but also in word and thought!
3. In John 8 Jesus taught that they were still in bondage b/c of their tie to the Law.
 - a. Way to freedom is to 1st see your bondage!
 - b. Turn to John 8:31-36–He sets free, no other
 - c. That’s how the Psalmist can say (Read Psm 119:165-166) “I have hoped for Thy salvation”
 - d. To work the work of God is to believe on Jesus (John 6:29)

Read Chap 20:18-21 – *Law is a test of reverence*

1. Law is a test of whether they'll fear God
2. Turn to Heb 12:18-29
3. Law will make you either fear God or turn away in pride saying, "If You're so smart, why don't You come down here and do all this"?
 - a. That's exactly what Jesus did!
 - b. To give us His righteous reward of freedom

Read Chap 20:22-26

1. Here in the 1st giving of the Law, it expects failure and short-coming. They need an altar.
2. An altar speaks of a sacrifice for sin.
3. This is the way to freedom, God accepting the payment of blood and death.
4. Notice the altar is to be made of earth.
5. A few wooden beams shaped into a cross would be sufficient for the final altar for Jesus.

#3 – God’s Law shows us Perfect Justice (Chap 21)

Read Chap 21:1-6 – *Law of the Bondservant*

1. Slavery was already around, these were laws about indentured servants, to treat employees just.
2. Bible & William Wilburforce were the reasons for the elimination of slavery in modern world.
3. Servant could stay b/c he loved his master.
 - a. Psm 40:6 speaks prophetically of Jesus
 - i. Read Psm 40:6–Mine ear hast Thou opened
 - ii. Read Phil 2:6-7 – took on form of servant

Read Chap 21:7-11 – *Law of taking a maidservant*

1. A young lady could be betrothed by her father to a man. Dowry would be pymnt of father’s debt.
2. These laws are to protect the lady’s status in the nation so she’s bot mistreated.
3. God is interested that no one would take advantage of her.

Read Chap 21:12-23 – *Various degrees of murder*

1. Vs 22-23 – “If no mischief follow” – speaks of if the attacker intended to harm to woman & baby.
2. Many details in the case of human death.
 - a. Human life is that important to God.
 - b. One punishment for all wouldn't be just.

Read Chap 21:24-27 – *Justice is fair at right level*

1. This is given to LIMIT the human desire to retribution! Not too light, not too harsh.
2. Jesus said (Read Matt 5:39) – “turn other cheek”
 - a. Law of Moses – Govt Law for Israel
 - b. Jesus Law – personal law of New Covenant
 - c. Combination is (Read Mic 6:8)
 - i. Live to do justly yourself
 - ii. Live to offer grace and mercy to others.

Read Chap 21:28-32 – *Intention or neglect of animals*

1. Vs 28-32 – Law to control your own animals.
1. Vs 33-36 – Law to protect your own animals.

Conclusion

So 3 lessons from the giving of God's Law showing that we need God to do the saving.

1. The Law shows True Holiness

- a. Presenting God's standard is designed to show man his limit.
- b. There's a separation between God's perfection and our limited frame

2. The Law shows the Way to Freedom

- a. God didn't free them from Egyptian bondage just to enslave them again.
- b. But to show us of our need of Him to complete perfect righteousness FOR US!

3. The Law shows Perfect Justice

- a. We think of the Law as harsh, but it's actually perfect justice, not too harsh or light.
- b. We don't want Justice from God (hell), we want His great mercy and grace!!