



## "Getting Closer To God"

Pastor Jason West | September 24, 2023

Shiloh Community Church



**I. A Call to \_\_\_\_\_**  
(Exodus 24:1)

**A. The Problem: We Are \_\_\_\_\_ From God Because of Sin**

**B. We Need a \_\_\_\_\_**  
(Exodus 24:2)

**II. God Speaks Through His \_\_\_\_\_**

**A. The \_\_\_\_\_ Word**

Exodus 24:3a "Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord and all the rules."

**B. The \_\_\_\_\_ Word**

Exodus 24:4a "And Moses wrote down all the words of the Lord."

**C. The \_\_\_\_\_ Word**

Exodus 24:7a "Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people."

**D. The \_\_\_\_\_ to the Word**

Exodus 24:3b "And all the people answered with one voice and said, 'All the words that the Lord has spoken we will do.'"

Exodus 24:7b "And they said, 'All that the Lord has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient.'"

**III. God Cleanses You**

Exodus 24:4b "He rose early in the morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel."

Exodus 24:5 "And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the Lord."

**A. Two Sacrifices**

**1. Burnt Offerings – All Given to God**

**2. Peace Offerings – Served As a Meal**

**B. It \_\_\_\_\_ With God**

Exodus 24:6 "And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar."

**C. We Are \_\_\_\_\_ in the Blood**  
(Exodus 24:8)

**IV. We Can Experience God's \_\_\_\_\_**

**A. A Glimpse of God**

Exodus 24:9-10 "Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness."

**B. A \_\_\_\_\_ With God**  
(Exodus 24:11)

**C. Spending \_\_\_\_\_ with God**

Exodus 24:12 "The Lord said to Moses, 'Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.'"

Exodus 24:13-14 "So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. And he said to the elders, 'Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them.'"

**V. Seeing God's \_\_\_\_\_**

Exodus 24:15-16 "Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud."

Exodus 24:17-18 "Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights."

**VI. Moses and the Law Were a \_\_\_\_\_ of What Was to Come**

John 5:46 "For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote of me."

Luke 24:27 "And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself."

Acts 28:23b "From morning till evening he expounded to them, testifying to the kingdom of God and trying to convince them about Jesus both from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets."

1 Timothy 2:5 "For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus"



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### 1. Familiarize Yourself With the Passage

- a. Read Exodus 19
- b. Read and study the context around the law
- c. Read and study the story/narrative around the law

### 2. Introduction to the Passage (Feel free to use this as a reference guide as you discuss the passage)

Grace in the Old Testament: Often times Christians hold an unhealthy dichotomy between the OT and NT saying that the Old Covenant was based on legalism or law and the New Covenant is based on grace. While there are differences between the two, this statement is not completely accurate. In Exodus 19:4 God is grounding the covenant on an act of grace when he says, "I bore you on eagle's wings and brought you to my myself." God performed the miracles in Egypt prior to Israel ever performing one act of obedience. Notice how grace is motivating obedience in the covenant.<sup>1</sup> Further, verses 5-6 are commonly understood in this way, "Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, [then] you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples..." However, it is better to understand it this way, "Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, [and be] my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; and [then] you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation."<sup>2</sup> Notice the security of the Israelites to be God's people is not grounded on their obedience. Their obedience guarantees the privileges of the covenant and not their position in the covenant. The issue in Exodus 19:4-6 is not will they have a covenant relationship with God based on their obedience, but what fruit will be the outcome of their covenant relationship. Grace was inherent in the Old Covenant as a foundation for the better covenant to come under Jesus Christ.

### 3. Questions about the Passage

- a. What does it mean that Moses consecrated the people and then the priests consecrated themselves to the Lord?
- b. What do you think about the answer that Israel gave to Moses? Would you have answered differently or the same (v. 8)? Do you think that the people had a prideful sense of their ability to keep it or were looking for the blessing rather than a relationship with God? (Note the fact that the worship of the golden calf happened a few chapters later and the history of the Israelite people).

- c. What do the images of smoke, fire, thunder, and lightning cause you to think about in regard to the nature of God?
- d. The Israelites approached God at Sinai with terror and were kept at a distance from God. How can we approach God differently in the New Covenant (Hebrews 12:18-24; 4:14-16)?

### 4. From the Passage to Life

- a. As you think about having a reverent fear of God, what does it look like to work out your life/salvation with fear and trembling (Philippians 2:12; 1 Peter 1:17)? How does this work out in the church corporately?
- b. How do you take time each day to cleanse yourself before the Lord or before corporate worship as you are growing in your sanctification (2 Corinthians 7:1; 1 John 1:9)? What is the condition for intimate fellowship with God according to 2 Corinthians 6:17-18?
- c. The People of Israel seemed to answer Moses quite quickly for various reasons. How do you depend on God in your daily life to live in obedience to God? What was a time in your life when you depended on God, and how was he faithful? How do we do this corporately as a church since the context is about corporate Israel?
- d. How has Jesus been a faithful mediator to you in your life from the time you first received Jesus to now as you have been growing in Christ?

<sup>1</sup> Peter J. Gentry and Stephen J. Wellum, Kingdom through Covenant: A Biblical-Theological Understanding of the Covenants, 2nd ed. (Wheaton: Crossway, 2018), 350.

<sup>2</sup> This is called the waw apodosis. Jason S. DeRouchie, How to Understand and Apply the Old Testament: Twelve Steps from Exegesis to Theology (New Jersey: P&R, 2017), 226-230. Gentry and Wellum, Kingdom through Covenant, 351.