

I. God Calls Us to Holiness - Exodus 19:1-8

In the third month after the sons of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, **on that very day** they came into the wilderness of Sinai. ² When they set out from Rephidim, they came to the wilderness of Sinai and camped in the wilderness; and there Israel camped in front of the mountain. ³ And Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, **“This is what you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the sons of Israel: ⁴ ‘You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings, and brought you to Myself. ⁵ Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My ^[b]own possession among all the peoples, 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 that you shall speak to the sons of Israel.”** ⁷ So Moses came and called the elders of the people, and set before them all these words which the LORD had commanded him. ⁸ Then all the people answered together and said, **“All that the LORD has spoken we will do!”** And Moses brought back the words of the people to the LORD.

II. God Prepares Us for His Presence - Exodus 19:9-15

⁹ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Behold, I will come to you in a thick cloud, so that the people may hear when I speak with you and may also trust in you forever.” Then Moses told the words of the people to the LORD. ¹⁰ The LORD also said to Moses, “Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and have them wash their garments; ¹¹ and have them ready for the third day, for on the third day the LORD will come down on Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. ¹² But you shall set boundaries for the people all around, saying, ‘^[c]Beware that you do not go up on the mountain or touch the border of it; whoever touches the mountain shall certainly be put to death. ¹³ No hand shall touch him, but he shall certainly be stoned or ^[d]shot through; whether animal or person, *the violator* shall not live.’ When the ram’s horn sounds a long blast, they shall come up to the mountain.” ¹⁴ So Moses went down from the mountain to the people and consecrated the people, and they washed their garments. ¹⁵ He also said to the people, “Be ready for the third day; do not go near a woman.”

III God Sets Us Apart for His Purpose - Exodus 19:16-25

¹⁶ So it came about on the third day, when it was morning, that there were ^[e]thunder and lightning flashes and a thick cloud over the mountain and a very loud trumpet sound, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled. ¹⁷ And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they stood at the ^[f]foot of the mountain. ¹⁸ Now Mount Sinai was all in smoke because the LORD descended upon it in fire; and its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the entire mountain ^[g]quaked violently. ¹⁹ When the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him with ^[h]thunder. ²⁰ Then the LORD came down on Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain; and the LORD called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up. ²¹ Then the LORD spoke to Moses: “Go down, ^[i]warn the people, so that they do not break through to the LORD to stare, and many of them ^[j]perish. ²² Also have the priests who approach the LORD consecrate themselves, or else the LORD will break out against them.” ²³ And Moses said to the LORD, “The people cannot come up to Mount Sinai, for You ^[k]warned us, saying, ‘Set boundaries around the mountain and consecrate it.’” ²⁴ Then the LORD said to him, “^[l]Go down and come up *again*, you and Aaron with you; but do not let the priests and the people break through to come up to the LORD, or He will break out against them.” ²⁵ So Moses went down to the people and told them.