

## Moses – part 18

*The Lord gives His commandments to Israel*  
**by Victor Torres**

The Lord told Israel to prepare for two days before He comes to see Him. Part of this preparation was to wash their clothes.

Exo 19:10 (GNB) and the LORD said to him, "Go to the people and tell them to spend today and tomorrow purifying themselves for worship. **They must wash their clothes**

Exo 19:11 and be ready the day after tomorrow. **On that day I will come down on Mount Sinai, where all the people can see me.**

We learned that this physical act of putting on clean clothes is a symbol of living a righteous, clean life.

Gen 35:2 (CEV) Jacob said to his family and to everyone else who was traveling with him: Get rid of your foreign gods! **Then make yourselves acceptable to worship God and put on clean clothes.**

Rev 19:8 (KJV) And to her [the bride of Christ, His body] was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: **for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.**

The people must have been really excited to see the Lord. He is the one who freed them from Egypt, a very powerful nation. He performed all those miracles including the parting of the Red sea. He fed them with manna or bread from heaven. But the Lord forbade anyone to go up the mountain and meet Him before the signal of the trumpet was given:

Exo 19:12 (CEV) Warn the people that they are forbidden to touch any part of the mountain. Anyone who does will be put to death,

Exo 19:13 either with stones or arrows, and no one must touch the body of a person killed in this way. Even an animal that touches this mountain must be put to death. **You may go up the mountain only after a signal is given on the trumpet.**

Exo 19:14 (ESV) So Moses went down from the mountain to the people and consecrated the people; and they washed their garments.

Exo 19:15 And he said to the people, "Be ready for the third day; do not go near a woman."

Exo 19:16 On the morning of the third day there were thunders and lightnings and a thick cloud on the mountain and a very loud trumpet blast, **so that all the people in the camp trembled.**

Who wouldn't be afraid of this sight – thunder and lightnings, a thick cloud and a very loud trumpet blast?

Exo 19:17 (ESV) Then Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they took their stand at the foot of the mountain.

Exo 19:18 Now Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke because the LORD had descended on it in fire. The smoke of it went up like the smoke of a kiln, and the whole mountain trembled greatly.

The Lord came down on Mount Sinai in fire. Smoke went up the mountain like the smoke from a kiln or an oven. Think of a wood-burning oven where a lot of smoke comes out, unlike the electric oven that we have now with electric coils to cook the food.

Exo 19:19 (ESV) And as the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him in thunder.

Exo 19:20 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.

I want you to notice the order of people who comes up to the Lord. First it was Moses who came up and met the Lord.

Exo 19:21 (ESV) And the LORD said to Moses, "Go down and warn the people, lest they break through to the LORD to look and many of them perish.

Exo 19:22 Also let the priests who come near to the LORD consecrate themselves, lest the LORD break out against them."

Exo 19:23 And Moses said to the LORD, "The people cannot come up to Mount Sinai, for you yourself warned us, saying, 'Set limits around the mountain and consecrate it.'"

Exo 19:24 And the LORD said to him, "Go down, and come up bringing Aaron with you. But do not let the priests and the people break through to come up to the LORD, lest he break out against them."

After Moses, the Lord wanted to see Aaron. However, the Lord specifically told Moses not to let the priests and the people break through and come up to the Him.

Exo 19:25 (ESV) So Moses went down to the people and told them.

Why are we shown this order? Because God will save all in a specific order. Moses represents our Lord here. Our Lord was saved from death first. Our Lord has to shed the sinful flesh He was given and so will every man, woman and child created by God. After our Lord, His elect will be saved in the first resurrection. They will be given a body of spirit that will not die or wither.

1Co 15:22 (KJV) For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

1Co 15:23 But every man in his own order: **Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.**

After the first resurrection, there will be a period of time when the elect will rule the world. This time is called the millennium. During this millennium, no rebellion will be tolerated. Then after the millennium, there will be a short period of rebellion, then comes the end.

1Co 15:24 (KJV) Then *cometh* the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.

1Co 15:25 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.

1Co 15:26 The last enemy *that shall be destroyed is death.*

In the end everyone else will be given a spiritual body and will be judged in the lake of fire. God's judgment produces good in those being judged.

During this white throne judgment, God will destroy our old man and gives birth to our new man. He will destroy our carnal mind and teach us His ways. He will save us all! This is a wonderful truth in the Bible, but you will not hear this truth taught in the false churches of this world.

God gave these commandments to Israel through Moses and Aaron:

Exo 20:1 (ESV) And God spoke all these words, saying,

Exo 20:2 "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

Exo 20:3 "**You shall have no other gods before me.**

Exo 20:4 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

Exo 20:5 You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me,

When the Lord says He does not want us to have any other gods besides Him, He is speaking on behalf of the Father. The Father is the one true God. The Lord wants us to dedicate our life in service to the Father. He is a jealous God who will punish us if we give Him a half-hearted service. The obvious practice of idolatry or bowing down to carved images is wrong in the eyes of God. But there is a not so obvious idolatry:

Col 3:5 (ESV) Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and **covetousness, which is idolatry.**

Covetousness or greed is the same as idolatry in the eyes of God. Think about it, if we want to be rich, we would spend most of our time and energy in earning money and not in serving other people.

Exo 20:6 (ESV) but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

God is faithful in rewarding those who love Him. How do we love Him? By keeping His commandments.

1Jn 5:2 (KJV) By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments.

1Jn 5:3 **For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments:** and his commandments are not grievous.

The next command is to not take the name of the Lord our God in vain.

Exo 20:7 (ESV) "**You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain,** for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

When we take the literal meaning of this command, we are not to say the word "God" in a casual or disrespectful manner. Some people even question using OMG or exclaiming "Jesus Christ" when one is surprised.

But the deeper meaning of taking the Lord's name in vain is revealed if we know that His name is referring to His words and His character. When these false preachers twist the words of God, they are taking His name in vain. When they teach of a monstrous God who will burn sinners in hell forever, instead of a loving God who is able to change and forgive the worst sinners in the world, they are

taking His name in vain.

Exo 20:8 (ESV) "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Exo 20:9 Six days you shall labor, and do all your work,

Exo 20:10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates.

Exo 20:11 For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

We've already seen what entering into the Lord's rest mean. It is to stop doing our self-righteous work and doing His works.

Let's read what the Lord further commanded Israel, and Lord willing, we will look at them more closely next time:

Exo 20:12 (ESV) "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

Exo 20:13 "You shall not murder.

Exo 20:14 "You shall not commit adultery.

Exo 20:15 "You shall not steal.

Exo 20:16 "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

Exo 20:17 "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

Exo 20:18 Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off

Exo 20:19 and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, lest we die."

Exo 20:20 Moses said to the people, "Do not fear, for God has come to test you, that the fear of him may be before you, that you may not sin."

Exo 20:21 The people stood far off, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.

Exo 20:22 And the LORD said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the people of Israel: 'You have seen for yourselves that I have talked with you from heaven.

Exo 20:23 You shall not make gods of silver to be with me, nor shall you make for yourselves gods of gold.

Exo 20:24 An altar of earth you shall make for me and sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen. In every place where I cause my name to be remembered I will come to you and bless you.

Exo 20:25 If you make me an altar of stone, you shall not build it of hewn stones, for if you wield your tool on it you profane it.

Exo 20:26 And you shall not go up by steps to my altar, that your nakedness be not exposed on it.'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s4b7cLrDvtM>