

Exodus 24 - The Covenant is Sealed with Blood; Moses Receives the Law on Mt Sinai

II. Israel's Covenant: Instruction to be redeemed nation (Ex 19:1—40:38)

(3) Covenant ratification ceremony (24:1-18)

(A) Moses ascends into the Lord's presence (24:1-2)

(B) Moses descends with the Decalogue and the book of the covenant and the people promised to obey them (24:3)

(C) Moses erects 12 pillars and altar and sprinkles them with blood (24:4-8)

(D) Moses, Aaron, Aaron's sons, and the 70 elders participate in the covenant meal with the Lord (24:9-11)

(E) Moses ascends to the summit of Mount Sinai to receive a duplicate set of Commandments and to experience God's glory (24:12-18)

Exodus 24

(3) Covenant ratification ceremony (24:1-18)

(A) Moses ascends into the Lord's presence (24:1-2)

1 Then He said to Moses, "Come up to the LORD, you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, and you shall worship at a distance.

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1 The LORD told Moses, "Come up to the LORD, you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and 70 of the elders of Israel, and worship at a distance.

1 And he said unto Moses, Come up unto the LORD, thou, and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel; and worship ye afar off.

- Nadab and Abihu are in the inner circle with Moses and Aaron, they seem to have a privileged position

— However, later (in Lev 10:1-2) they are destroyed by fire for having offered strange fire before the Lord

2 Moses alone, however, shall approach the LORD, but they shall not approach, nor shall the people come up with him."

2 Moses alone, however, shall come near to the LORD, but they shall not come near, nor shall the people come up with him."

2 Only Moses is to approach the LORD, but the others are not to approach; the people are not to come up with him."

2 And Moses alone shall come near the LORD: but they shall not come nigh; neither shall the people go up with him.

(B) Moses descends with the Decalogue and the book of the covenant and the people promised to obey them (24:3)

3 Then Moses came and reported to the people all the words of the LORD and all the ordinances; and all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words which the LORD has spoken we will do!"

3 Then Moses came and recounted to the people all the words of the LORD and all the ordinances; and all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words which the LORD has spoken we will do!"

3 Then Moses came and reported all the words of the LORD and all the statutes to the people, and they all answered with one voice, "We will do everything that the LORD has decreed."

3 And Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD, and all the judgments: and all the people answered with one voice, and said, All the words which the LORD hath said will we do.

(C) Moses erects 12 pillars and altar and sprinkles them with blood (24:4-8)

4 And Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD. Then he got up early in the morning, and built an altar at the foot of the mountain with twelve memorial stones for the twelve tribes of Israel.

4 Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD. Then he arose early in the morning, and built an altar at the foot of the mountain with twelve pillars for the twelve tribes of Israel.

4 So Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD. He got up early in the morning and built an altar with twelve pillars for the twelve tribes of Israel at the base of the mountain.

4 And Moses wrote all the words of the LORD, and rose up early in the morning, and builded an altar under the hill, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel.

5 And he sent young men of the sons of Israel, and they offered burnt offerings and sacrificed bulls as peace offerings to the LORD.

5 He sent young men of the sons of Israel, and they offered burnt offerings and sacrificed young bulls as peace offerings to the LORD.

5 He sent young Israeli men to offer up burnt offerings and sacrifice bulls as peace offerings to the LORD.

5 And he sent young men of the children of Israel, which offered burnt offerings, and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen unto the LORD.

6 Moses took half of the blood and put *it* in basins, and the *other* half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar.

6 Moses took half of the blood and put *it* in basins, and the *other* half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar.

6 Moses took half the blood and put it in bowls, while he sprinkled the other half on the altar.

6 And Moses took half of the blood, and put it in basons; and half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar.

7 Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read *it* as the people listened; and they said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient!"

7 Then he took the book of the covenant and read *it* in the hearing of the people; and they said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient!"

7 He took the Book of the Covenant and read it to the people. They said, "We will put into practice and obey everything that the LORD has decreed."

7 And he took the book of the covenant, and read in the audience of the people: and they said, All that the LORD hath said will we do, and be obedient.

8 So Moses took the blood and sprinkled *it* on the people, and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

8 So Moses took the blood and sprinkled *it* on the people, and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

8 Moses took the blood, sprinkled it on the people, and said, "This is the blood of the covenant that the LORD made with you based on all these words."

8 And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD hath made with you concerning all these words.

(D) Moses, Aaron, Aaron's sons, and the 70 elders participate in the covenant meal with the Lord (24:9-11)

9 Then Moses went up with Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel,

9 Then Moses went up with Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel,

9 Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and 70 of the elders of Israel went up

9 Then went up Moses, and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel:

10 and they saw the God of Israel; and under His feet there appeared to be a pavement of sapphire, as clear as the sky itself.

10 and they saw the God of Israel; and under His feet there appeared to be a pavement of sapphire, as clear as the sky itself.

10 and saw the God of Israel. Under his feet was something like a pavement made of sapphire, as clear as the sky.

10 And they saw the God of Israel: and there was under his feet as it were a paved work of a sapphire stone, and as it were the body of heaven in his clearness.

11 Yet He did not reach out with His hand against the nobles of the sons of Israel; and they saw God, and they ate and drank.

11 Yet He did not stretch out His hand against the nobles of the sons of Israel; and they saw God, and they ate and drank.

11 Because God did not punish the Israeli leaders, they looked at God, yet lived to eat and drink.

11 And upon the nobles of the children of Israel he laid not his hand: also they saw God, and did eat and drink.

- Read Heb 9:18-20

- Every covenant tends to be ratified by blood and usually preceded by sacrifice (for example the covenant with Noah: Gen 8:8-9; 15:9,10,17)

- The nation is in the presence of God. Ezek 1; 10; Is 6; Dan 7; Rev 4-5 are examples of being confronted with the Throne of God

- "Sapphire stone" (Ezek 1:26)

- Notice here in v11 that the nobles are not touched even though they are in the presence of God, in fact, they are comfortable enough to eat and drink! Fellowship

(E) Moses ascends to the summit of Mount Sinai to receive a duplicate set of Commandments and to experience God's glory (24:12-18)

12 Now the LORD said to Moses, "Come up to Me on the mountain and stay there, and I will give you the stone tablets with the Law and the commandments which I have written for their instruction."

12 Now the LORD said to Moses, "Come up to Me on the mountain and remain there, and I will give you the stone tablets with the law and the commandment which I have written for their instruction."

12 Then the LORD told Moses, "Go up to me on the mountain and stay there. I'll give you stone tablets with the instruction and law that I've written to teach the people."

12 And the LORD said unto Moses, Come up to me into the mount, and be there: and I will give thee tables of stone, and a law, and commandments which I have written; that thou mayest teach them.

13 So Moses got up along with Joshua his servant, and Moses went up to the mountain of God.

13 So Moses arose with Joshua his servant, and Moses went up to the mountain of God.

13 So Moses got up, along with Joshua his servant, and went up on the mountain of God.

13 And Moses rose up, and his minister Joshua: and Moses went up into the mount of God.

- Notice that Joshua goes with Moses, not Aaron

14 But to the elders he said, "Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a legal matter, have him approach them."

14 But to the elders he said, "Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a legal matter, let him approach them."

14 He told the elders, "Wait here for us until we return to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you, and whoever has a dispute, let him come to them."

14 And he said unto the elders, Tarry ye here for us, until we come again unto you: and, behold, Aaron and Hur are with you: if any man have any matters to do, let him come unto them.

15 Then Moses went up to the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain.

15 Then Moses went up to the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain.

15 When Moses went up on the mountain, the cloud covered it.

15 And Moses went up into the mount, and a cloud covered the mount.

16 The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; and on the seventh day He called to Moses from the midst of the cloud.

16 The glory of the LORD rested on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; and on the seventh day He called to Moses from the midst of the cloud.

16 The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days. Then on the seventh day he called to Moses from within the cloud.

16 And the glory of the LORD abode upon mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days: and the seventh day he called unto Moses out of the midst of the cloud.

17 And to the eyes of the sons of Israel, the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a consuming fire on the mountain top.

17 And to the eyes of the sons of Israel the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a consuming fire on the mountain top.

17 To the Israelis the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a consuming fire on top of the mountain.

17 And the sight of the glory of the LORD was like devouring fire on the top of the mount in the eyes of the children of Israel.

18 Then Moses entered the midst of the cloud as he went up to the mountain; and Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

18 Moses entered the midst of the cloud as he went up to the mountain; and Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

18 When Moses went up on the mountain, he went into the center of the cloud and was on the mountain for 40 days and 40 nights.

18 And Moses went into the midst of the cloud, and gat him up into the mount: and Moses was in the mount forty days and forty nights.

- In a direct revelation sense, for the people of Israel, this was the high point of 1500 years of subsequent history

- In fact, within 40 days of their fellowship with God, the nation builds a golden calf to worship!!

The leadership continues to be ordained, but the people never again have this experience. The experience which was available to them only through their leaders, is available to you and me forever, and directly. That is what the Tabernacle is all about. John 1:14, "The Word became flesh and tabernacled among us." The whole Tabernacle is a lesson for us of what Jesus Christ can mean to you and me personally.