

Exodus 19-32 Continued

Question: How would you describe the Christian God to someone?

The Commands

Ten Commandments

Read 19:1- 20:21

- Israelites camp at Mount Sinai, and Moses meets God on the Mount
- Israel to be God's Priests and holy nation
 - o *Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel.* ~20:5-6
- God, in three days, will be descend on the mountain, and made it holy
 - o Israelites are to purify themselves
- When God comes, Moses and Aaron go up the Mountain
 - o Everyone else must stay on ground

Book of the Covenant

20:22-24:18

- This complex body of laws is known as the Book of the Covenant
- Can be separated into Moral, Ceremonial, Civil/Judicial (these distinctions are not made in Scripture)

Moral Law

Examples: Ten Commandments, penalties for failure to obey the laws

Purpose:

- to promote welfare of those who obey
- To illuminate the fallen state of mankind

Ceremonial Law

Examples: animal sacrifices, *rejection of foods (young animals boiled in mother's milk)*, adhering to feasts

Purpose:

- Instructions of receiving a right standing before God (animal sacrifices)
- Remembrances of God's work in Israel (adherence to feasts)
- Regulations to distinguish them from the other nations (food restrictions)
- Practices that point to the coming Messiah (Resting on the Sabbath)

Judicial/Civil Law

Examples: Restitution, responsibilities of the wrong doer to the one who was wronged

Purpose:

- Morally cultural laws except the Ten Commandments
- To resolve conflicts within Israelite society

Question

How are the Israelites doing as a kingdom of priests and a holy nation?

Do the Christians today need to follow the Ten Commandments, and the other commands?

Ark of the Covenant, Tabernacle, Priests

25:1- 31:18

- Instructions given to the building of the Ark of the Covenant, and the building of the Tabernacle

Read 28:1-31:18

- Aaron and sons are to be consecrated as priests
 - o Description of the priest's garments
 - o Description of how they were to be anointed

- Description of different offers that the priests are responsible for
 - Blood atonement once a year
- God chooses artisans for the tabernacle
- God explains the Sabbath
- All that was said on Mount Sinai is written on two tablets

Question

What do all these laws and instructions tell us about worshipping God?

Idol Worship

Read 32:1-32:35

- Aaron leads Israel to create a Golden Calf to worship it
- God is displeased
 - 32:7-10: 7 And the Lord said to Moses, "Go down, for your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves. 8 They have turned aside quickly out of the way that I commanded them. They have made for themselves a golden calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" 9 And the Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stiff-necked people. 10 Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, in order that I may make a great nation of you."
- Moses pleads for Israel, reminds God of the covenant with the Patriarchs
- Moses smashes the stone tablets
- Moses grinds the golden calf to a powder, scatters it in the water, and makes Israelites drink it
- Three thousand people are killed for their idolatry
- Names are blotted out, God forgives, still punishment through bringing of plagues

Question

What do the actions of God in these chapters tell us about Him and His character?

In what ways are the people of the Old Testament the same as the New Testament, and in what ways are they different?

Conclusion

- Jesus is foreshadowed everywhere
- The Passover is a reminder to Christians of how God saves
- God has a serious love for his covenant people
- God is particular of how he is to be worshipped
- People have a serious love with their sinful nature