

Exodus 19-32

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
- God, in three days, will be descend on the mountain, and made it holy
- When God comes, Moses and Aaron go up the Mountain

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, Read 28:1-31:18

- Instructions given to the building of the Ark of the Covenant, and the building of the Tabernacle
- Aaron and sons are to be consecrated as priests
- 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

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