

DAILY STUDY

Lesson 8: Israel Approaches Mount Sinai

Passage: Read Exodus 18 - 20

Verse: Exodus 20:1-2

DAY 1 LET'S BEGIN:

1. According to Ex. 19:1 when did Israel enter into the wilderness of Sinai?
2. What names did God use to describe the people in Exodus 3:19?
3. How many times did Moses go up the mountain in Exodus 18 - 20? Give the reference for each time you count.

DAY 2 FIND the FACTS:

1. What is significant to you about the mention of eagle's wings in the middle of Exodus 19:4?
2. Where had God brought the people according to the end of Exodus 19:4? (Ex. 5:1; 8:1)
3. What are some unusual things you have seen God do in your family?
4. What promises and what conditions are in Exodus 5-6?
Promises:

Conditions:

5. What was the response of all the people to God's words from Moses? (19:8)

DAY 3 VERSE ANALYSIS: Please fill in the missing words.

Exodus 20:1-2 Then God spoke all these words, saying, "___ the ___, who brought you out of the land of Egypt ..."

1. Of what did God remind the people at the beginning of Exodus 20:4?
2. What do you know or what can you find out about how God has worked in the lives of your parents in the past?
3. What do you know or what can you find out about how God has worked in the lives of your grandparents in the past?
4. What do you know or what can you find out about how God has worked in the life of one of your teachers or a friend in the past?

DAY 4  **THINK it THROUGH:**

1. What were the people told to do in the three days before they met with God? (Ex. 19:10-11)
2. How is God's holiness evident in Exodus 19:12-13?
3. What are several things the people saw on the third day? (19:16-19)
4. What are several things the people heard on the third day? (19:16-19)
5. Who went up to the top of the mountain? (19:20)
6. What was the response of the people at the end of Exodus 19:16?
7. Plan to spend some extra time thinking about God's ten laws this week.
 - A. What one or two things do you think are most important to God? (Mt. 22:37-40)
 - B. How can you please God?
 - C. What things has God done for you that you can thank Him for?
8. What can you do to improve your relationship with God this week?

DAY 5  **REMEMBER MOSES:**

In what verses are recorded the Ten Commandments which God gave to Moses and the people? After God spoke to the people, why did they ask Moses to speak to them for God? (Ex. 20:18-19) What was Moses' reply in Exodus 20:20?

What are some words you would use to describe God? What are some things He has done to bring you where you are presently? What do you need to clean out of your life? If you were going to meet with God in three days, what would you do to prepare?

Take time now to praise God for His creation, and thank Him for being the Creator.



PASSAGE SUMMARY

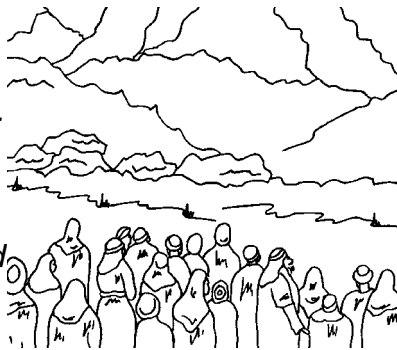
Lesson 8

Israel Approaches Mt. Sinai

Moses' second son was named Eliezer because Moses said the God of his father was his help and had delivered him from the sword of Pharaoh. Moses had sent his wife, Zipporah, and sons, Gershom and Eliezer, away earlier, but his father-in-law, **Jethro**, brought them back when the Israelites were out of Egypt.

While Jethro was visiting Moses, he saw and heard what had happened and believed in the LORD. He made a sacrifice to God with Aaron and the elders of Israel. Then Jethro watched Moses judge the people from morning until evening. Jethro suggested that Moses teach the people God's statutes and laws, and divide his duties among honest, able men who feared God. Moses did as Jethro suggested.

In the third month Israel entered the wilderness of Sinai. Moses went up the mountain to God, and God reminded him of what He had done for them and told him that if the people obeyed His voice and kept His covenant, they would be



His possession. When Moses reported to the people, they said they would do all the LORD said.

The Lord instructed Moses to have the people consecrate themselves, wash their clothing and be ready for Him to come down to them on the third day. The LORD came down to Mount Sinai in fire and smoke with the people at the foot of the mountain. He called Moses up the mountain and told him to warn the people not to come too close. Moses told the people.

The LORD gave **ten laws** to the people. When the people saw and heard the thunder and lightning and the sound of the trumpet with the mountain smoking, they were **afraid** and asked Moses to speak to God for them. Moses told the people not to be afraid and went toward the thick cloud where God was.

God gave Moses instructions for sacrifices and offerings and specific laws. As we will see in Exodus 23, God said that if the people obeyed, He would prepare the way before them. They would have the **land** from the Red Sea to the sea of the Philistines and from the wilderness to the Euphrates River, and the inhabitants would be driven out. Moses reported to the people, and they agreed to **obey** all the LORD required.

QUESTIONS: What did Moses do at mount Sinai?
What did God do at mount Sinai?
What did the people do at mount Sinai to prepare for God?

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God had been silent toward the Israelites for over four hundred years, but He had not forgotten His promise to deliver them from bondage, and He was able to carry it out. The book of Exodus shows a progression of God drawing the people to Himself. God was not just interested in Moses or any one leader. He wanted each and every individual to come to Him. Now God was preparing to develop the communication necessary for them to commune with Him.

God directed Moses to lead the people out of Egypt, which separated them from direct Egyptian influence even though there was still the mixed multitude. The Israelite nation had no direction to go other than to follow Moses and God. God led them with a pillar of fire by night and a pillar of cloud by day until they reached Mt. Sinai.

In Exodus 19 God began telling Moses what to say to the people at Mt. Sinai. The LORD told Moses to remind them of what He had done to the Egyptians and how He had brought them safely to Himself. He used the picture of eagle's wings. This is a picture of how an eaglet is fully prepared for flight before it ever begins to fly. For an eagle this is important because it could fall to its death from its high nest if it did not fly the first time. Even if it does fall the mother eagle catches it on her wings and returns it to the nest. God prepared the Israelites just as carefully.

God also presented some promises and conditions for Moses to deliver. Moses delivered all of God's words to the people. Then the LORD God invited all the people to come worship Him at Mt. Sinai. God is holy and the people could not bear to listen even

though they affirmed their intentions to obey a number of times. The first time God spoke to the people they responded in fear. They told Moses to listen for them which Moses did. God gave Moses the laws and ordinances.

The laws God gave Moses showed that man was not able to satisfy the requirement of a holy and righteous God on his own. God even provided a whole set of laws regarding sacrifices to make when the law was broken. Each time, God initiated the relationship between God and man. See your Bible or the Story Page for more details.

God is consistent about His rejection of sin. God's law shows us that we cannot please Him. We cannot keep His law, and sin does have consequences. God is gracious and merciful, but there will be a judgment day when He will ask what we have done with Jesus. Jesus is our covering for sin if we have claimed Him; otherwise we have no right to be in God's presence.

What is important to you about God's hatred of sin? What are you still holding onto that God hates?

PRAYER: *Thank you, God, for our Bibles and for drawing us to Yourself.*
