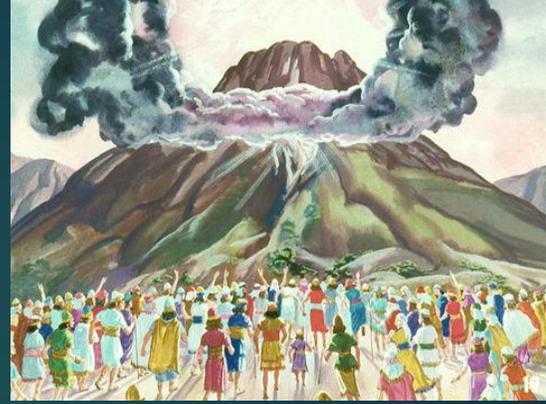




# The Awesome God

EXODUS 19

# Serve God on This Mountain



- ▶ (19:2) God's people have finally **arrived** at "this mountain" as God had prophesied before the exodus (Exo. 3:12)
- ▶ "to serve God" Moses did not understand at first, but now he was about to **receive God's commandments** and declare them to His people
- ▶ In this chapter we shall see how God interacts directly with His people and how God has prepared them to receive Him



# It Is Not About Salvation

- ▶ God's commandment here is not about **salvation** (v.4-5) (eagle is a sign of freedom, the people are delivered already)
- ▶ They are God's **chosen** people, that will never change (v.4) (Gen. 12). Just like us (1 Peter 2:9).
- ▶ Nevertheless, although God's love and His blessings toward us are **unconditional** (Eph. 1:3-5) our **experience** of His love and His blessings are very much conditional. (v.5; 2 Peter 1:9)

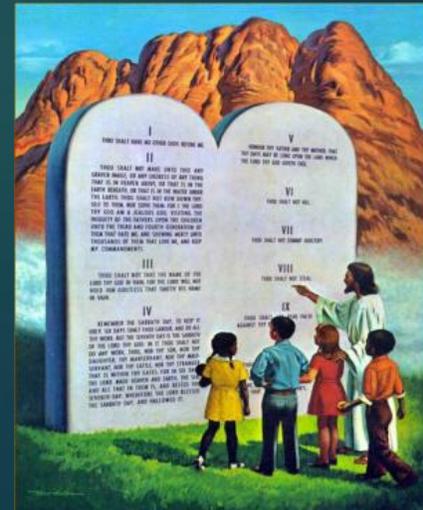
# 1. Obey My Voice

- ▶ God has made several conditions for them to interact with God: (preparing them)
- ▶ First, they are called to “obey my voice and keep my covenant” (v.5)
- ▶ This is an extension of the covenant that God had given to Abraham from the beginning.
- ▶ God **unconditionally** chose them to be His people. But their enjoyment of God’s blessings is very much **conditional**. (Deut. 28-30).



# But Why?

- ▶ Why should we still **follow** God's commandments? Aren't we not under the law but under grace?
- ▶ (Matt. 5-7) Almost all of the commandments are mentioned by Jesus here, because we still serve the same God. Even though we are free from the Law, the **intent** of God's will still remains.
- ▶ (Rom. 13:8-10) It is good to **listen to** and obey the law of God (Psalm 19:7; 1:2-3)





## 2. God is Awesome

- ▶ (v.10) They are called to **prepare themselves** physically (v.12); and to not step into the boundary of God's mountain.
- ▶ (v.15) There is nothing evil about physical intimacy between husband and wife, rather they are to single-mindedly focus on the Lord as they prepared to meet Him.
- ▶ (v.16-20) All these physically enhance the **awesomeness** and holiness of God

- ▶ Although there is a physical difference after **incarnation** (Immanuel, Matt. 1:23; 1 John 1:1), this does not change the awesomeness of God and how we should approach Him
- ▶ The **fear** of the Lord is still the beginning of wisdom. (Prov. 10:9) This is true no matter if it is before or after the incarnation.
- ▶ We may now freely approach the throne of grace (Heb. 4:16) yet it is still the **throne of holiness** (Isa. 6:3, Rev. 4:8-9).
- ▶ And we are still **called** to be holy (1 Peter 1:15-16)

### 3. We are His priest and His nation

- ▶ (19:6) They are supposed to **represent** God among the nations
- ▶ (1 Peter 2:5, 9) We have a similar calling
- ▶ It is not at actual sinlessness that we must arrive, since all our sins are washed away by the blood of Jesus. It is rather for our attitude to meet God, as they were on that day; and to prepare us to represent Him.



# Conclusion

- ▶ Imagine this: Are you ready to meet God today? (If God walks in right now)
- ▶ How will you prepare yourselves if you know He will walk into the room in 5 minutes?
- ▶ And are you ready to represent God today?
- ▶ Are you willing to obey God and to keep His word?

