

“Covenant Mercies and Commitment”

What kind of relationship do we have with God? How does Exodus 24 point forward to what Jesus Christ did? What seals our relationship with God? Do you see, have you experienced, the distinguishing privilege of being summoned to come near to the LORD?

Exodus 24:1-18

The Covenant Ratified at a Solemn Assembly (24:3-8)

The Covenant Sealed with a Sacred Meal (24:1-2, 9-11)

The Covenant Mediator meets with the High King (24:12-18)

✦ *How do we approach a Holy God?*

✦ *Why is the blood of Jesus Christ so necessary?*

(A good little book on this subject is *His Blood Works: The Meaning of the Word ‘Blood’ in Scripture* by Alan Stibbs)

Exodus 20:22-24:11 - *The Book of the Covenant (24:7) is given by God through a mediator and accepted by His redeemed people*

1. Covenant ratification - a very special ceremony (24:3-8)

“A covenant is a *bond in blood sovereignly administered.*” (O. Palmer Robertson, *The Christ of the Covenants*, p. 4. Emphasis his.)

- A. God’s concluding instructions to Moses (vv. 1-2)
- B. The Covenant Confirmation Ceremony – a sacred assembly in God’s presence
 - 1. God’s Word spoken and the peoples’ answer (v. 3)
 - 2. God’s Word written and sacrifices offered (vv. 4-6)
 - ▶ burnt offerings – atonement for sin and total commitment symbolized
 - ▶ peace offerings – friendship symbolized, fellowship enjoyed in a meal
 - ▶ the blood and the altar
 - 3. The Book of the Covenant read and obedience promised (v. 7)
 - 4. The Blood of the Covenant sprinkled (v. 8)
 - ▶ a graphic reminder of the penalty of breaking the covenant
 - ▶ a symbol of purification and consecration
 - ▶ a beautiful reminder of God’s grace in making a way of forgiveness

† Do you see how this Covenant with Moses as mediator points forward and anticipates the New Covenant with Jesus Christ as Mediator?

† Do you believe that Jesus Christ shed His blood as the final and perfect sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sins and as the basis of peace with God and the enjoyment of fellowship with Him?

† Have you yourself been covered by the blood of Christ shed for you?

† Will you make Christ known to the world through your obedience and faith *and* repentance?

2. **The Covenant Sealed with a Sacred Meal (24:1-2, 9-11)**

- A. “Come up to the LORD” (vv. 1-2)
- Mount Sinai
 - Who is summoned?
 - Degrees of closeness allowed – also pictured in the tabernacle and temple
- B. “They saw the God of Israel” (vv. 9-11)
- God’s glory
 - God’s mercy
 - Communion with God!

† Do you treasure the call to worship?

† Do you enjoy “the distinguishing privilege of God’s faithful servants”?

† Is the Lord’s Supper a precious time of communion and does it excite your anticipation for the feast that awaits the saints?

3. **The Covenant Mediator meets with the High King (24:12-18)**

- A. Moses called up further (vv. 12-14)
- to receive the gift of the Law
 - accompanied by Joshua
 - delegated responsibility
- B. Moses ascends and meets the Sovereign Lord (vv. 15-18)
- the glory of God was visible to all
 - Moses waited to be summoned further
 - he was on the mountain 40 days

† Do you know Jesus Christ as the Covenant Mediator to whom Moses points forward?

† Do you see how Jesus is superior? (See the New Testament book of Hebrews)

Have you been covered with the blood of the New Covenant?

How does the Covenant change how you live—change what you are living for?

Do you know/experience JOY in the blessed and distinguishing privileges of the New Covenant?

Do you have forgiveness, full and free?