

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS
JANUARY 22, 2025
EXODUS 19:10-20

INTRODUCTION:

1. God employs both fear and love to motivate us to obedience.
 - a) Jesus encourages obedience on the basis of love. (John 14.15; 1 John 4.19)
 - b) Fear of judgment drives us to obedience. (2 Cor. 5.9-11)
2. Israel's introduction to God can be divided into three sections.
 - a) **EXODUS 19.1-9:** The proposal of God and acceptance of Israel.
 - b) **EXODUS 19.10-25:** The power of God and the fear of Israel.
 - c) **EXODUS 20.1-21:** The precepts of God and the request of Israel.
3. In the scene of Sinai, God dramatically displays His glorious presence to instill fear into the heart of Israel and encourage obedience to the Law of Moses.

I. BREAKING DOWN THE TEXT

A. Consecration.

1. **EXODUS 19.10:** *"Go to the people and consecrate them"*
 - a) Consecrate: to set aside for God. "Sanctify" (v. 14; cf. Ex. 13.2,12; Ex. 29)
 - b) They were expected to be ready on the third day. (Ex. 19.11)
2. **EXODUS 19.14,15:** *"do not come near your wives."* (cf. Lev. 15.18)

B. Preparation.

1. **EXODUS 19.12:** *"You shall set bounds for the people all around"* (v. 23)
2. A prohibition: *"do not go up to the mountain or touch its base."*
3. A penalty: *"Whoever touches the mountain shall surely be put to death."*
4. A punishment: *"he shall surely be stoned or shot with an arrow"* (v. 13)
5. A permission: *"When the trumpet sounds long, they shall come near the mountain"* (v. 13).

C. Presentation.

1. God presented Himself with drama.
 - a) **EXODUS 19.16:** *"there were thunderings and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud"*
 - b) **EXODUS 19.18:** *"Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire."*
 - c) **EXODUS 19.19,20:** *"the blast of the trumpet sounded long and became louder and louder..."* An announcement. (cf. v. 9; Matt. 6.2; 1 Cor. 15.52)
2. Israel presented themselves with dread.
 - a) **EXODUS 19.16:** *"so that all the people who were in the camp trembled."*
 - b) Even Moses was terrified at the sight. (Heb. 12.18-21)

II. THE TERROR OF THE LORD

A. Why did God present Himself to Israel in such a glorious fashion?

1. God wanted Israel to be afraid of Him. (Deut. 4.9,10; Ex. 20.18-20)
2. God used both fear and love to motivate them. (Deut. 6.4-6,24; Isa. 8.13)

B. A faithful Christian lives his life in fear and love.

1. God has the power and authority to decide our eternal destiny. (Matt. 10.28)
2. Fear keeps us from sin. (Heb. 4.1; 10.26-31; 12.26-29)
3. However, the love of God gives us confidence. (1 John 4.16-19; Heb. 2.14,15)