

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS

December 3, 2025

Exodus 33:5ff

Introduction:

1. In Exodus 33, Moses made a request: *"Please, show me Your glory"* (Ex. 33.18).
 - a) God's response: *"I will make all My goodness pass before you"* (Ex. 33.19)
 - b) The glory of God is not merely an abstract, dazzling light, but is practically and powerfully demonstrated in His divine character – His goodness.
 - c) His goodness makes His glory visible. To understand it is to see His glory.
2. In Exodus 34, God shows the His glory as He promised.

I. THE PRESENCE OF GOD

- A. **Exodus 34.5:** *"the LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there"*
 1. The direction of God's presence. (cf. Deut. 30.11-14; cf. Gen. 3.8; 11.5; Ex. 19.11)
 2. The intimacy of God's presence. (cf. Ex. 33.3,15)
- B. God has always reached out to humanity.
 1. **Romans 10.5-8:** God brings His message to us.
 2. Ultimately, God reached out to mankind through Jesus. (John 14.8,9)

II. THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD

- A. The metaphysical character of God.
 1. God does not define Himself by His appearance, but by His character.
 2. **Exodus 34.5:** *"proclaimed the name of the LORD."* (Ex. 6.2,3; 33.19)
 3. **Exodus 34.6:** *"The LORD, the LORD God."* Grammatical emphasis.
 4. God is known by many descriptive terms. (Ex. 6.3; Gen. 1.1; 15.2)
- B. The moral character of God.
 1. His feelings toward us: *"merciful and gracious"* (v. 6). Rechim: "womb"
 2. His patience toward us: *"longsuffering"* (v. 6). Lit., "long nose."
 3. His commitment toward us: *"abounding in goodness and truth."* Carries the idea of a love that is reliable. (v. 7; cf. 2 Sam. 16.17; Ps. 51.1; Jer. 23.28).

III. THE PARADOX OF GOD

- A. The scope of His forgiveness.
 1. **Exodus 34.7:** *"forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin"*
 2. The grace of God is not cheap. (cf. Luke 14.33)
- B. The seriousness of His justice.
 1. **Exodus 34.7:** *"by no means clearing the guilty"* The mercy of God does not nullify His justice. Sin must be addressed. (cf. Josh. 24.19)
 2. **Exodus 34.7:** *"visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children..."* Sin has consequences that can last for generations. (Num. 14.17-19,20-23)
- C. How did Moses respond? (Ex. 34.8,9)