

# “CLIMBING GOD’S MOUNTAIN”

Joshua 1:2 Fellowship

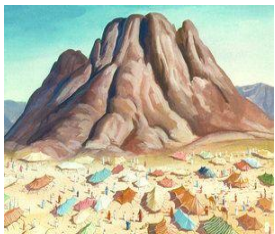
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Monthly Newsletter

August 2020

## Exodus 19:1-3

Meeting with God on a daily basis should be a number one priority in our lives. In Exodus 19, it reveals to us that Israel was at Mt. Sinai, where they met God.



“In the third month after the sons of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that very day they came into the wilderness of Sinai, when they set out from Rephidim, they came to the wilderness of Sinai and camped in the wilderness; and there Israel camped in front of the mountain.” Ex. 19:1-2

Before the people could meet with God and before Moses could climb that mountain, they had to prepare themselves. What kind of preparation did God require?

### BE WILLING TO OBEY

“...Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant...” Ex. 19:3-6

God did not want His words to fall on deaf ears. He required His people to display an attitude of willingness. In Moses’ first journey up the mountain, God said, “I want to be sure the people are willing to obey.”

Moses came back down the mountain to call “the elders of the people together, and set before them all these words which the Lord had commanded him.” V.7

Israel responded by saying, “All that the Lord has spoken we will do.” V.8 - They were willing to **OBEY GOD’S** commandment!

## ARE YOU WILLING TO OBEY GOD?

### BE SENSITIVE TO LISTEN

“The Lord said to Moses, ‘Behold, I will come to you in a thick cloud, so that the people may hear when I speak with you and may also believe in you forever.’ Then Moses told the words of the people to the Lord.” V.9

God told Moses, “Not only do I want the people to be willing to obey, I want them to be sensitive to hear when I speak. God was laying the groundwork for communication. Israel was to be ready to hear and willing to obey. We must also be willing to obey and be sensitive to listen.

### CONSECRATE YOUR HEARTS

Not only are we to obey and to listen, but we must also consecrate ourselves. We need to separate from the world and from the unbelievers.

2 Cor. 6:14- “Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?”

“The Lord also said to Moses, “Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their garments; and let them be ready for the third day, for on the third day the Lord will come down on Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people... So Moses went down from the mountain to the people and consecrated the people, and they washed their garments.” V.10-11, 14



Their clean garments were to reflect clean hearts. They were to be clean and pure on the outside and the inside.

God said, “You shall set bounds for the people all around, saying, ‘Beware that

you do not go up on the mountain or touch the border of it; whoever touches the mountain shall surely be put to death. No hand shall touch him, but he shall surely be stoned or shot through; whether beast or man, he shall not live. ‘When the ram’s horn sounds a long blast, they shall come up to the mountain.’ V.12-13

God instructed Moses to erect a boundary, a fence, a secure and sacred barrier around the mountain, so that people would not wander too close. You cannot serve two masters having one foot in and one foot out in the world. Stay in the highway of holiness.

### SHOW A DEEP RESPECT FOR GOD’S PRESENCE

Moses went down the mountain and prepared the people as God had instructed. On the third day God descended in fire on the mountain and called Moses up for another conference.

God sent Moses back down with an urgent message: “Go down, warn the people, so that they do not break through to the Lord to gaze, and many of them perish.” V.21

Only the ones whom God called were to climb the mountain and all others were to stay below.

“Moses said to the Lord, ‘The people cannot come up to Mount Sinai, for You warned us, saying, “Set bounds about the mountain and consecrate it.”’ V.23

So deep and profound must be this respect for God’s holy presence that no one was even to touch the mountain. The people were to wait upon God to speak to Moses and hear the Lord’s words through Moses.

### GOD CAME DOWN

The Bible says that “The Lord came down on Mt. Sinai...”

When we prepare ourselves to meet God, His way, He comes down. It pleases God when His children properly prepare themselves to spend time with Him.

Ex. 19:20 says, “The Lord came down on Mt Sinai, to the top of the mountain; and the Lord called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.” Ex. 19:16-19

How was that meeting up there in the mountain?

Heb. 12:21 says, “The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, “I am trembling with fear.”

Why did God want to meet with Moses?

1) To establish a healthy fear of God.

“Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid; for God has come in order to test you, and in order that the fear of Him may remain with you, so that you may not sin.” Ex. 20:20

Any born-again person who sins willfully has for a moment blocked out his fear of God. If you know there is a loving and holy God who will not let you get away with sin, you will avoid sin at all costs. God wanted to establish with Israel - a holy, righteous, pure and respectful concept of His presence.

2) To communicate written instructions for the people.

“Now the Lord said to Moses, “Come up to Me on the



mountain and remain there, and I will give you the stone tablets with the law and the commandment which I have written for their instruction.”

So Moses arose with Joshua his servant, and Moses went up to the mountain of God.” Ex. 24:12-13

God gave His people written instructions to obey.

What did God reveal?

1) He revealed His written word.

“When He had finished speaking with him upon Mt. Sinai, He gave Moses the two tablets of the testimony, tablets of stone, written by the finger of God.” Ex. 31:18

2) He revealed the design of the tabernacle.

“Let them construct a sanctuary for Me, that I may dwell among them. According to all that I am going to show you, as the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furniture, just so you shall construct it.” Ex. 25:8-9

God gave His people the Word of God that they might know His mind and obey. He gave them the design for the tabernacle that He might come and dwell among them. God wanted to make Himself accessible and available and He would dwell in a certain place called the tabernacle.

### **CONCLUSION:**

Your ability to live a life of victory, is meeting regularly with Almighty God. We have met the Lord. We have been through the Red Sea. We have come through the wilderness, but some have not come to that mountain, to that place of meeting consistently and regularly with God. **SOME HAVE ABANDONED IT!**

Moses did four things when he met with God:

1. To meet regularly with God, you need a place.
2. You need to be prepared.
3. To hear from God, you need the Scriptures.
4. To remember what God says, you need a journal. Write down on a notebook what He reveals to you.

A deeper, more consistent walk with Christ requires time and attention every day. It is called prayer. If this happens, you will bear fruit. How many Christians have taken a course on prayer but never pray?

**Come to God's mountain with a sincere heart and with FAITH!**