

## Message Notes

### Confirming the Covenant

A personal - but not individualistic! - relationship with God

#### Confirming the Covenant Exodus 24:1-18

Moses and Friends  
Exodus 24:1-2

"We will do it."  
Exodus 24:3-4a

Blood on the Altar  
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Blood on the People  
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Moses and Friends Part Two  
Exodus 24:9-11

Moses and Joshua on the Mountain  
Exodus 24:12-18

The Gospel According to Moses  
Hebrews 10:19-25

A personal (and covenantal) relationship with God

Joining a covenant community

## Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

Exodus 24:1-18

1 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Come up to the Lord, you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel. You are to worship at a distance, 2 but Moses alone is to approach the Lord; the others must not come near. And the people may not come up with him." 3 When Moses went and told the people all the Lord's words and laws, they responded with one voice, "Everything the Lord has said we will do." 4 Moses then wrote down everything the Lord had said. He got up early the next morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain and set up twelve stone pillars representing the twelve tribes of Israel. 5 Then he sent young Israelite men, and they offered burnt offerings and sacrificed young bulls as fellowship offerings to the Lord. 6 Moses took half of the blood and put it in bowls, and the other half he splashed against the altar. 7 Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it to the people. They responded, "We will do everything the Lord has said; we will obey." 8 Moses then took the blood, sprinkled it on the people and said, "This is the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words." 9 Moses and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and the seventy elders of Israel went up 10 and saw the God of Israel. Under his feet was something like a pavement made of lapis lazuli, as bright blue as the sky. 11 But God did not raise his hand against these leaders of the Israelites; they saw God, and they ate and drank. 12 The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone with the law and commandments I have written for their instruction." 13 Then Moses set out with Joshua his aide, and Moses went up on the mountain of God. 14 He said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we come back to you. Aaron and Hur are with you, and anyone involved in a dispute can go to them." 15 When Moses went up on the mountain, the cloud covered it, 16 and the glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai. For six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh day the Lord called to Moses from within the cloud. 17 To the Israelites the glory of the Lord looked like a consuming fire on top of the mountain. 18 Then Moses entered the cloud as he went up the mountain. And he stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

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Have You  
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**LAWS?**



# The Gospel According to

# M O S E S

a study of exodus

## **Exodus 21:1**

“These are the laws you are to set before them...”

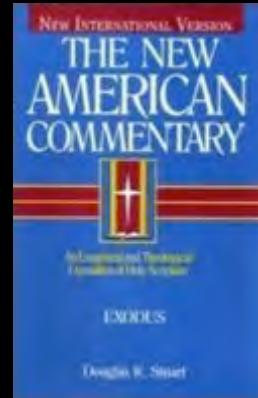
# A sampling of these laws

## Exodus 21:22-25

<sup>22</sup>“If people are fighting and hit a pregnant woman and she gives birth prematurely but there is no serious injury, the offender must be fined whatever the woman’s husband demands and the court allows. <sup>23</sup>But if there is serious injury, you are to take life for life,  
<sup>24</sup>eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, <sup>25</sup>burn for burn, wound for wound, bruise for bruise.”

The goal of laws that use the wording “life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth,” is that the penalty imposed for causing physical injury must be appropriate to the nature of the injury. In other words, a mere monetary penalty (a fine) cannot be considered adequate justice when someone has been permanently maimed by a person in a manner that clearly demands a punishment...By contrast to the laws of pagan nations, the law governing God’s chosen people Israel required real equity at law and forbade people with money being able to buy their way out of criminal penalties...The goal of talion law (i.e. punishment corresponds in kind and degree to the injury) was always a simple one: to see that full justice was done.

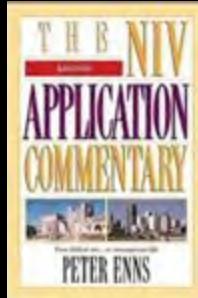
~ Douglas K. Stuart, *Exodus*, vol. 2, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2006), 492–494.



Today's Message:  
Confirming the Covenant  
Exodus 24:1-18

Israel's choice was never between making a covenant either with other gods or with Yahweh, but between making a covenant with other gods (23:32) or *accepting* the covenant Yahweh graciously, mercifully, lovingly made with them.

Enns, P. The NIV Application Commentary (2000). (p.4919).  
Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.



# Moses and Friends

## Exodus 24:1-2

<sup>1</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, “Come up to the LORD, you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel. You are to worship at a distance, <sup>2</sup> but Moses alone is to approach the LORD; the others must not come near. And the people may not come up with him.”

<sup>3</sup> When Moses went and told the people all the LORD’s words and laws, they responded with one voice, “Everything the LORD has said we will do.” <sup>4</sup> Moses then wrote down everything the LORD had said.

# **“We will do it.”**

## **Exodus 24:3-4a**

<sup>1</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, “Come up to the LORD, you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel. You are to worship at a distance, <sup>2</sup> but Moses alone is to approach the LORD; the others must not come near. And the people may not come up with him.”

<sup>3</sup> When Moses went and told the people all the LORD’s words and laws, they responded with one voice, “Everything the LORD has said we will do.” <sup>4</sup> Moses then wrote down everything the LORD had said.

The LORD, in his love,...set forward laws and regulations and provisions that teach them how to live under these banners of... love of God first and love for their neighbor as themselves. And, under these banners, we are going to have a society in which we can function under a set of shared values. I want you to feel how much the LORD loves these Israelites...So his heart is all over these pages full of oxen and donkey and slaves. So be looking for the heart of God in the midst of this.

~ Anne Lincoln Holibaugh,  
Podcast: *Exodus II, week 5: The Book of the Covenant*



# Blood on the Altar

## Exodus 24:4b-6

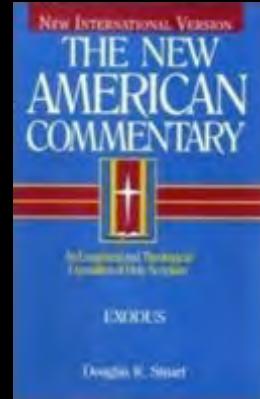
He got up early the next morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain and set up twelve stone pillars representing the twelve tribes of Israel.<sup>5</sup> Then he sent young Israelite men, and they offered burnt offerings and sacrificed young bulls as fellowship offerings to the LORD.<sup>6</sup> Moses took half of the blood and put it in bowls, and the other half he splashed against the altar.

# Blood on the People

## Exodus 24:7-8

<sup>7</sup> Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it to the people. They responded, “We will do everything the LORD has said; we will obey.” <sup>8</sup> Moses then took the blood, sprinkled it on the people and said, “This is the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words.”

Moses sprinkled blood on the people in order to symbolize their being parties to the covenant. Some droplets would remain on their skin for days; some that fell on their clothing would be visible, if faded, for as long as the clothing lasted.



~ Stuart, D. K. (2006). (Vol. 2, p. 555). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

# **“My treasured possession”**

## **Exodus 19:4–6**

<sup>4</sup> ‘You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup> Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine,<sup>6</sup> you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.”

# Moses and Friends Part Two

## Exodus 24:9-11

<sup>9</sup> Moses and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and the seventy elders of Israel went up <sup>10</sup> and saw the God of Israel. Under his feet was something like a pavement made of lapis lazuli, as bright blue as the sky. <sup>11</sup> But God did not raise his hand against these leaders of the Israelites; they saw God, and they ate and drank.

But why did God show Himself, albeit only vaguely and partially? It was so that Israel would understand He was a willing party to the covenant. They would remember that they agreed to keep His covenant in His actual, unmistakable presence...If getting a glimpse of God was not enough, they were given further privilege—to share a meal with Him. Sharing a meal was a symbolic act of friendship. It showed they had fellowship (communion) with God.



~ Tony Merida, *Christ-Centered Exposition Commentary: Exalting Jesus in Exodus*,  
page 161

# Moses and Joshua on the Mountain

## Exodus 24:12-18

<sup>12</sup> The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone with the law and commandments I have written for their instruction.”

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# M O S E S

a study of exodus

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LAWS?**

# Confirming the Covenant

A personal (and covenantal) relationship with  
Jesus Christ

## Hebrews 10:19–25 (NIV)

<sup>19</sup> Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup> by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, <sup>21</sup> and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup> let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

<sup>23</sup> Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup> And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup> not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

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When your entire world is tailored to meet your needs and fulfill your desires, you cannot help but start to see the church the same way. You see your (church staff) as the people you pay to keep you happy. You see the programs as a way of serving your own needs. In other words, you import your consumer mindset into the church, and suddenly church is all about you and what you need, not about Jesus and what he has done, or about the Spirit of God and how he can empower you to serve others. Instead of the Kingdom Dream changing you, you let your American Dream change your church.

~Trevin Wax, This Is Our Time:  
Everyday Myths in Light of the Gospel, 109-110

