

Introduction

“The law...is not intended to be the means by which anyone gets right with God. The Israelites are already God’s people through His grace...He redeemed them before they received the law. Their obedience is not to be a desperate attempt to earn His salvation; it is a response to the salvation He has already achieved for them. But if obedience to the law is not the path to membership in the covenant of God, it is required for enjoyment of the blessing within the covenant.”

Vaughan Roberts
God’s Big Picture, p. 69

This year we are memorizing Isaiah 40. This week’s verse is Isaiah 40:8...
“The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever.”

Day One

Read Exodus 19; Israel at Mount Sinai

1. From last week’s lesson or lecture, what did you learn about redemption?
 - a. How was the nation of Israel redeemed? Does the nation’s status as redeemed mean that the individuals who comprise the nation are also redeemed?
2. In Exodus 19:2, why did the people camp in front of Mount Sinai (also known as Mount Horeb), considering that it wasn’t on the direct route from Israel to Canaan? (See Exodus 3:1–12.)
3. In verses 3–6, Yahweh expressed His relationship with Israel before the Mosaic covenant was implemented. What does this reveal about the foundation on which the covenant is based, and why is that significant?
 - a. Through which covenant did Yahweh entered into His relationship with Israel?
4. According to verses 5–6, what was the intended purpose of the Mosaic covenant?
5. In verse 8, Israel’s declaration of commitment came before the legal stipulations of the covenant had been administered. How does this help you understand the nature of obedience to God’s law?
6. What similarities do you see between God’s covenant with Israel and how He calls and saves believers today?

Day Two

Read Exodus 20 and skim chapters 21–23; The Distinctives of the Covenant, Part 1

1. In Exodus 20:1–2, what reminder did Yahweh give Israel again, before He gave them the law?
2. In verses 3–17, there are two overall categories in the Ten Commandments. How would you separate and summarize each division?

3. The Ten Commandments are distinct from the rest of God's law because they were spoken directly by Yahweh. According to Exodus 20:18–21, how did the people respond to God's revelation of Himself?
4. In Exodus 23–26, more detailed laws concerning social and religious applications were given. How might obedience to those specific laws help accomplish the purpose of the Mosaic Law seen in Exodus 19:5–6?
5. From your own knowledge of Scripture or using a commentary or other Bible resource, identify other purposes the law had for Israel. Cite verses to support your answer.
6. From these chapters, what have you learned about God's holiness? How can you apply that to your life and fight against sin?

Day Three

Selected Scriptures; The Distinctives of the Covenant, Part 2

NOTE: Throughout Exodus, some of the key words used to refer to the Abrahamic Covenant are “remember” (2:24), “give” (6:4), and “swear” (6:8).

1. From Exodus 19:5–6, what does the contingent language reveal about the nature of the Mosaic Covenant, and how is that different than the Abrahamic Covenant? Why is this significant?
2. What are the promises of the Mosaic covenant? (See Deuteronomy 28:1–2, 15.)
3. In Exodus 24:3–7, how did the people respond to the terms of the Mosaic Covenant?
4. According to Exodus 31:12–17, what sign did God give to commemorate the Mosaic covenant?
5. **Dig Deeper:** From your knowledge of Scripture or using a commentary or other Bible resource, list some of the differences and similarities between the Abrahamic covenant and the Mosaic covenant. Key passages include Genesis 12–17 and Exodus 19–20.

Day Four

Skim Exodus 32–33; The Golden Calf

1. From Exodus 32:1–10, summarize what the people of Israel did during the 40 days Moses spent on the mountain, and how Yahweh responded.
 - a. Are you surprised by the way in which the Israelites broke the Mosaic covenant? What implications did their sin have on their relationship with Yahweh?
2. According to Exodus 32:11–14, how did Moses appeal to God for mercy on His people after they broke the covenant? Why is it significant?

- a. Why do you think that Moses' intercession was based on the Abrahamic Covenant?
 - b. What did Moses' entreaty and God's mercy reveal about...
 - i. Moses
 - ii the importance of Scripture
 - iii. God's character
 - iv. the nature of the Abrahamic Covenant
3. In Exodus 32:26–29, what did Moses ask of the people, who responded, and what did they do?
- a. From Numbers 8:14–16, how were the Levites ordained for the service of the Lord?
 - b. How committed are you to the Lord's holiness? How can you grow in your reverence for God?
4. From Exodus 33:1–6, what threats, both internal and external, faced the Israelites as they resumed their journey to the Promised Land?
- a. From verse 3, what was the specific cost of the Israelites' breaking the Mosaic Covenant?

Day Five

Read Exodus 33–34 and 40; *The Covenant Renewed*

1. According to Exodus 33:12–16, what did Moses ask of Yahweh, and how did He respond?
 - a. According to verse 16, what would Israel lose if the Lord didn't go with them to the Promised Land?
2. From Exodus 34:1–9, what specific aspects of His character does Yahweh reveal to Moses? How was God's character magnified by Israel's unfaithfulness?
3. According to Exodus 34:10, what did Yahweh do, and why? Does this surprise you? Explain your answer.
4. Can you identify with the Israelite's response to trials?

Women of Grace

• Lesson 7 • Exodus: Deliverance and the Covenant, Part 2 •

- a. How has this study of the beginning of Exodus given you with a greater appreciation of Yahweh, and how might that help you respond differently to the trials in your own life?

5. The rest of Exodus details how Yahweh empowered His people to build the tabernacle. From Exodus 40:34–38, what happened once the tabernacle was completed?
 - a. What did God’s willingness to tabernacle with His people emphasize? (See Exodus 25:8 and 29:45–46.)

6. Yahweh’s faithfulness to His promises and His people is evident throughout the book of Exodus. Identify one principle or aspect of God’s character that made a particular impact on you and share it with your group.