



## Introduction

*In Exodus 20 God gave the Israelites the 10 commandments. They now agree to do all that God asks of them.*



## Questions

1. What did the people say firstly when Moses told them God's words and ordinances and again when he read the book of the covenant to them?
2. Why did Moses sprinkle blood on the people?
3. Why did God give Moses the stone tablets with the law and the commands?



## Summary Points

- **v 1 and 2** God invites Aaron, Nadab, Abihu and 70 elders to come up the mountain (see map) and worship from a distance. Only Moses is invited to come near the LORD
- **v 3** Moses tells the people the LORD's words and ordinances which they say they will keep
- **v 4 to 7** Moses writes God's words. He builds an altar on which burnt and peace offerings are made (see information). He sprinkles half the blood from the offerings on the altar. He then reads the book of the covenant to the people which the people say they will obey
- **v 8** Moses sprinkles the rest of the blood on the people to confirm the covenant (see theme) they have made
- **v 9 to 11** Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu and 70 elders see a vision of God and eat and drink
- **v 12 to 14** God invites Moses to come up the mountain to receive the stone tablets containing the law. Moses appoints Aaron and Hur to deal with disputes
- **v 15 to 18** Moses goes up the mountain which is covered by God's glory. After six days God speaks to Moses who stays on the mountain for forty days and nights

**Timeline** 1500 BC (see below)



## Themes / Information

### Sacrifice

The Encyclopedia Britannica says:

Sacrifice, a religious rite in which an object is offered to a divinity in order to establish, maintain, or restore a right relationship of a human being to the sacred order. It is a complex phenomenon that has been found in the earliest known forms of worship and in all parts of the world.



*A selection of verses showing the principles of sacrifice before and in the law of Moses.*

After the flood, Noah offers a sacrifice that is a pleasant aroma to the LORD:

*Genesis 8 verses 20 and 21*

After Moses receives the ten commandments, God tells him that they must make an altar to offer sacrifices:

*Exodus 20 verse 24*

Moses is told the significance of the offerings:

Sin offering:

*Leviticus 4 verses 2, 34 and 35,*

Trespass offering:

*Leviticus 5 verses 15 and 16, 6 verses 2 and 6*

Burnt offering:

*Leviticus 1 verses 3 and 4*

Peace offering:

*Leviticus 7 verses 15 and 16*

Meal offering:

*Leviticus 2 verses 1 and 21*

### **God's covenants - with the Israelites**

*A selection of verses showing what the Bible says about the covenant God makes with his people.*

God makes a covenant with Abraham the father of the Israelites:

*Genesis 15 verse 18, 17 verse 7*

God says the covenant also applies to Abraham's descendants; for example, Isaac his son:

*Genesis 17 verse 19*

God keeps his side of the bargain, even though the Israelites regularly forget him; as is the case when they are slaves in Egypt:

*Exodus 2 verse 24*

After delivering them from slavery in Egypt, God makes a covenant with Israel at Sinai:

*Exodus 19 verses 4 to 8*

But despite the fact that they don't keep their word, God, in His mercy, promises to make a new covenant with them:

*Jeremiah 31 verses 31 to 33*



**Wilderness travels - to Sinai**

Map showing the approximate travels of the Israelites to Sinai (Exodus 19 v 1).

Question marks by place names indicate that the location is uncertain.



**? Answers to questions**

Verses which answer the questions:

Q 1: v 3 and 7, Q 2: v 8, Q 3: v 12



# Bible timeline

