

Sermon Handout

In the Presence of God

Exodus 24:12-18

- I. Revelation of God's purposes** in chapters 24-34
- a. Moses is called into God's immediate presence vv. 12a, 16
 - i. So that God can give him stone tablets v. 12b
These contain the 10 Words 31:18, 34:28b
They are the direct product of God's hand 31:18b, 32:15-16
Moses had to recreate them after they were broken 34:1
 - ii. So that Moses can teach the people v. 12c
 - b. Moses will eventually do exactly what God tells him
 - i. He returns with two tablets 34:29
 - ii. He teaches the people 34:32
- II. How the narrative is framed** - 24:12-18 compared with 31:18-34:28
- Elements are repeated in the beginning and end of the narrative
- a. Moses goes up to receive stone tablets from God 24:12-13, 15, 18
Moses receives stone tablets from God 31:18
 - b. Moses remains sequestered with God forty days 24:18 and 34:28
cf. Jesus in Mt 4 (40 day fast; responds with God's Word)
 - c. Joshua goes up the mountain with Moses 24:13
Joshua comes down the mountain with Moses 32:17
 - d. Moses tells Israel to wait for him 24:14a
Israel gets tired of waiting for Moses, and take steps of their own 32:1
 - e. Aaron is left in charge by Moses to adjudicate cases 24:14b
Aaron is persuaded by the people to assist in their idolatry 32:2-4
This is a serious failure of leadership that was entrusted to him
See his lame excuse in 32:22-24
- III. The lesson**
- a. The entire section is about God teaching his people what it means to be in covenant with the One True and Holy God. (25:1-31:17, worship & consecration)
 - i. "Come up to me."
 - ii. "Wait on my servants and my instructions."
 - iii. "Be dependable in obedience and patience."
 - b. The section sets a pattern for godly worship of the Almighty
 - i. We are called up to God on the Lord's Day Rev 1:1-3, 10; 4:1-2
 - ii. We receive instruction from God about holy living and how to speak
Rev 10:9-11; Eze 3:1-4; Josh 1:7-8