

# The Covenant is Ratified

## Exodus 24

Presented by Bob DeWaay  
August 23, 2009

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
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### Overview

- God calls Moses and 70 elders to ascend Sinai
- All the people agree to the terms of the covenant
- Sacrificial blood is offered and sprinkled
- Those who went up saw God
- Notably, they did not die!
- Moses alone goes to the top and stays there 40 days and 40 nights

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
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### Seventy elders go part way up

- **Exodus 24:1, 2**

Then He said to Moses, "Come up to the Lord, you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu and seventy of the elders of Israel, and you shall worship at a distance. Moses alone, however, shall come near to the Lord, but they shall not come near, nor shall the people come up with him."

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The people agree to the terms of the covenant

■ **Exodus 24:3**

Then Moses came and recounted to the people all the words of the Lord and all the ordinances; and all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words which the Lord has spoken we will do!"

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A ceremony of Israel's entry into covenant

■ **Exodus 24:4, 5**

Moses wrote down all the words of the Lord. Then he arose early in the morning, and built an altar at the foot of the mountain with twelve pillars for the twelve tribes of Israel. He sent young men of the sons of Israel, and they offered burnt offerings and sacrificed young bulls as peace offerings to the Lord.

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They promise to *shama* "listen"

■ **Exodus 24:6, 7**

Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and the other half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar. Then he took the book of the covenant and read it in the hearing of the people; and they said, "All that the Lord has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient!"

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### The sprinkled “blood of the covenant”

- **Exodus 24:8**

So Moses took the blood and sprinkled it on the people, and said, “Behold the blood of the covenant, which the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words.”

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### Six responsive actions

- They received written law to which they agreed
- They gather before the altar and 12 pillars
- They participate in fellowship offerings
- They listen to Moses reading the book
- They agree to obey
- They are sprinkled with blood and heard Moses say “this is the blood of the covenant”

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### A theophany of God’s presence

- **Exodus 24:9, 10**

Then Moses went up with Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, and they saw the God of Israel; and under His feet there appeared to be a pavement of sapphire, as clear as the sky itself.

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They have communion in God's presence and do not die!

■ **Exodus 24:11**

Yet He did not stretch out His hand against the nobles of the sons of Israel; and they saw God, and they ate and drank.

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Only Moses goes all the way up

■ **Exodus 24:12, 13**

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.

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The cloud signifies God's presence and guidance

■ **Exodus 24:14, 15**

But to the elders he said, "Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a legal matter, let him approach them." Then Moses went up to the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain.

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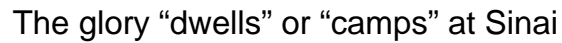
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The glory of the Lord rested on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; and on the seventh day He called to Moses from the midst of the cloud.

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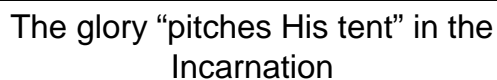
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And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

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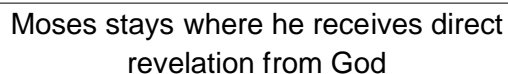
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And to the eyes of the sons of Israel the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a consuming fire on the mountain top. Moses entered the midst of the cloud as he went up to the mountain; and Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

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## Implications and Applications

- 1) Only God determines the terms of approaching Him
- 2) Sacrificial blood is necessary for those who would approach God

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- 1) Only God determines the terms of approaching Him

■ **Leviticus 10:1, 2**

Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took their respective firepans, and after putting fire in them, placed incense on it and offered strange fire before the Lord, which He had not commanded them. And fire came out from the presence of the Lord and consumed them, and they died before the Lord.

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- 1) Only God determines the terms of approaching Him

■ **Leviticus 10:3**

Then Moses said to Aaron, "It is what the Lord spoke, saying, 'By those who come near Me I will be treated as holy, And before all the people I will be honored.'" So Aaron, therefore, kept silent.

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1) Only God determines the terms of approaching Him

■ **Hebrews 7:19b**

on the other hand there is a bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God.

Leviticus 10:3 LXX “come near” is *eggizo*\_

Hebrews 7:19 “draw near” is *eggizo*\_

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2) Sacrificial blood is necessary for those who would approach God

■ **Exodus 12:13**

The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and when I see the blood I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

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2) Sacrificial blood is necessary for those who would approach God

■ **Hebrews 9:22**

And according to the Law, one may almost say, all things are cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

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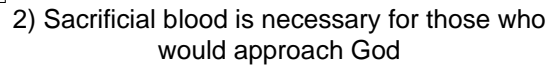
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how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

2) Sacrificial blood is necessary for those who would approach God

Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, . . . let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.