

The Making of a National Covenant - YHVH Visits Israel – Part 3

Exodus 19

16 And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that was in the camp trembled.

On the morning of the third day the mountain of God (Mount Sinai) was filled with thunders, lightnings and a thick cloud. The people also heard the voice of a trumpet exceedingly loud. This ‘storm’ made *all* of Israel tremble! If you’ve ever been in a mighty thunder storm perhaps you can understand a bit what this was like. Thunder and lightning can be very scary but when you add the thick cloud and loud trumpet, it was downright frightening. Paul even told us in Heb 12:21 that: *so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake*. So, God’s storm even scared Moses!

Throughout God’s Word, thunder and lighting have been connected with God and Rev 4:6 links them to His very throne. God’s voice has also been likened to thunder (2 Sam 22:14, Ps 18:13, John 12:29) and to the ‘sound of many waters’ (Rev 1:15). Thundering’s and lightnings are also connected to the trumps and vials of the Revelations (Rev 8:6). God’s Word makes it quite apparent that our Heavenly Father uses thunder and lightning as a means of communication and to fight with as well (Rev 11:19, 16:17-21, Isa 29:7, Ps 77:18, 104:7, 1 Sam 12:16-19, 1 Sam 2:10, 7:10, 2 Sam 22:15, Ps 144:6, Zech 9:14-17). It’s also been used as a way to explain how Jesus Christ will return (Mth 24:24, Lk 17:24) as well as to explain Jesus’ countenance at the mount of transfiguration (Mth 28:3). Jesus also uses lightning to explain how Satan ‘fell’ in the first earth age and will be cast down to earth at the end of this earth age (Lk 10:18, Rev 12). **[I Saw Satan Fall Like Lightning From Heaven - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/327>].**

Moreover, God (YHVH) frequently uses clouds to travel with. So much so that it’s truly another study for another time. But you can study quite a bit on it with the following two studies which not only explain how God uses clouds *to disguise His vehicles* but these studies also describe the vehicles God and His angels ride in (Satan has vehicles similar to those too so don’t assume all of these vehicles are good, or that they’re all bad – we’ve still got to discern as 1 John 4:1 says).

- You Will See Clouds and Wheels, Part 1 - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/392>
- You Will See Clouds and Wheels, Part 2 - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/393>

And lastly, we cannot forget that trumpets are another one of God’s tools of communication. Israel’s invasion of Jericho (their first battle in the Promise Land, Joshua 6-7) is a type to show the importance of trumpets in the coming spiritual battle, during the tribulation of the antichrist. The army marching around Jericho *silently*, the priests *blowing the trumpets*, the men holding their peace *until* they heard a special kind of sound from the trumpets, at which time they then *shouted...* and the walls of Jericho came down flat... these are all stunning types for the spiritual battle that will be waged against Satan and his fallen angels when they are on earth pretending to

be God and his angels (2 Thess 2, Rev 12). Additionally, the number seven (which means *spiritual perfection, completeness* in Biblical numerics - <https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/960>) was frequently used in that battle, showing us that it is a stunning type for how God will speak through His elect and two witnesses during the days when Satan is here pretending to be the Messiah (Savior) of the world (2 Thess 2, Rev 11, Mth 24, Mk 13, Lk 21).

In fact, trumpets have been consistently an integral part of warfare for Israel, just as trumpeting the truth is an integral part of the spiritual warfare. When Jesus told His followers they would do ‘greater works’ than He (John 14:12), it was because He knew technology would allow us in these ‘latter days’ to trumpet (or broadcast) the truth instantly via satellite and the internet. We can reach millions if not billions of people through these means. It took the apostles years to spread the Gospel but it can now be done instantly. Furthermore, when the Holy Spirit gives the cloven tongue (like on the first Pentecost day, Acts 2), it *translates* God’s message so everyone listening knows exactly what is being said. The communication can thus not only be instant but also effective because the translation is given in the same dialect they were born in. Therefore, technology plus the cloven tongue will allow the witnesses of the end days to be able to teach the Gospel to so many more people than Jesus or His apostles did. This is why Jesus said that *this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come* (Matt 24:14). And in Mark 13:10 He went so far as to say that *the gospel must first be published among all nations*.

So, trumpets are effective means of communication. Thus, He instructed Israel to use trumpets for several purposes: to assemble the people, as an alarm for war, on days of gladness, solemn days, beginning of months and even for a memorial for their offerings (Num 10). As we learned prior, Israel even had a special feast called the “Blowing of Trumpets” (Lev 23:24). [**Feast Days of Israel:** <https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/1001>]. But God is not done using trumpets to communicate with; only now He will be using His children as trumpets when they witness for Him. And in Revelations 8, we’re told about seven trumpets which warn us of things soon to come in the *spiritual* battle, also known as the tribulation of the antichrist, who is Satan himself. [Ever wonder... **How Can Satan Deceive the Whole World?** <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/380>]. Not only that but we’re also told that Jesus Christ will return with...

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

1 Thess 4:16-17

As a study of Revelations will clarify (along with 2 Thess 2, Dan 9-12, Mth 24, Mk 13 and Lk 21), the *fake* Christ (Satan) is cast to the earth at the sixth trump while the *true* Jesus Christ is cast to the earth at the seventh (AFTER the false Christ). Moreover, Paul tells us here in 1 Thess that Jesus will come back with only at the *last* trump (Rev 11:15-19, 16:17-21). And, while many

twist verse 17 to try and validate their erroneous Rapture Theory doctrine [learn the truth about the Rapture Theory and it's origins: <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/334>], Paul is actually just explaining how the 'elect' (those who remain faithful to the true Jesus Christ while Satan's on the earth pretending to be God) will be gathered by the angels of Jesus when He returns (Mth 24:29-31) and given eternal bodies (which are interdimensional like Jesus' resurrected body is). Paul also explains this in 1 Cor 15:51-52, and further clarifies that *all flesh* bodies will be done away with when Jesus returns. Moreover, he explains that, those who don't overcome Satan's deception will simply be changed 'instantly' to the spiritual (angelic) bodies they had before coming to the flesh. But the overcomers, those who make the first resurrection (Rev 20:4-6) are those to whom Jesus Christ will shall *change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body* (Phil 3:20-21).

To reiterate: those who don't overcome will be will still be changed but to the same spiritual bodies they had before coming to this dimension into a flesh body. They'll then be gathered outside the Kingdom of heaven (some into prisons, Isa 24:22) to be taught for the 1000 years of the Millennium (Mth 13:30, 40-43, 47-49). These people will still have souls that are liable to die because they didn't make the first resurrection. The overcomers, however, will be rewarded with an eternal body (and soul) that is also *interdimensional*, just as Jesus has. Jesus was able to 'disappear' in plain sight and then 'reappear' to the disciples after His resurrection. The fact that Jesus just appeared 'out of nowhere' in the middle of a room that was all locked up, scared the disciples because they thought He was a spirit. But He confirmed that He was not; He was in His translated body and even ate fish and a honeycomb to prove it to them (Lk 24:31, 36-43). Thus, knowing about the trumpets of God and who comes when *is vital for your future*.

So, trumpets are a vital part of our Heavenly Father's communication means as well as part of His waging war (spiritual and physical). Thundering's, lightnings and clouds are too. So, it's not surprising that Israel was frightened at seeing God's power. Anyone would be. God's glory and power is awesome and very hard for our flesh to handle seeing and/or experiencing. But, as we shall see in the next chapter (Ex 20:20), God had a very good reason to give Israel this kind of 'show' of His power. Now, what happened next?

Exodus 19

17 And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet with God; and they stood at the nether part of the mount.

Moses diligently obeyed God. He brought the people out of the camp near the mountain of God but made sure no one came close to crossing the boundaries he had set up. What an experience this would have been. Can you imagine being in the flesh and 'meeting' with God? Yet Israel did. Furthermore, many people saw God in the flesh when Jesus Christ was walking, talking and breathing upon the earth.

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 The same was in the beginning with God.

*3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.
5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not...
... And **the Word was made flesh**, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father;) full of grace and truth.
John 1:1-5, 14*

The sad thing is, *most didn't recognize Him...*

*24 Then came the Jews round about him, and said unto him, How long dost thou make us to doubt? If thou be the Christ, tell us plainly.
25 Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me.
John 10:24-25*

The question we must honestly ask ourselves is do we truly believe in Jesus Christ? Jesus Christ IS the Word of God and if we don't believe (nor even study) God's Word then how can we be assured we believe in Jesus Christ? It's important to have faith but you understand what you actually have faith in for it to be true faith. Real faith will produce good fruit (James 2). It is time for us to honestly evaluate our lives, hearts and minds and make the necessary changes to align them with God's Word. For once the spiritual battle begins (when Satan's cast out of heaven to this earth), it will be too late to prepare for the battle because it'll be already here. Hence the parable given to us of the foolish versus wise virgins in Mth 25.

Exodus 19

18 And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly.

We're given more details of this amazing event elsewhere in the Scriptures. **The following account is from a line by line study of Deuteronomy chapter 33**, which can be found in full at this telegram link: [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Deuteronomy/139]...

Deut 33

*2 And he said, The LORD came from Sinai, and rose up from Seir unto them; he shined forth from mount Paran, and **he came with ten thousands of saints**: from his right hand went a fiery law for them.*

This verse is referencing Exodus 19-20 when God (YHVH) literally came down to earth on Mount Sinai to give Israel the Ten Commandments. The Companion Bible has notes which explains that the term 'rose up' from Seir means to 'to break forth as light' and the term 'shined forth' from mount Paran means 'to shine forth in glory'. In other words, when YHVH appeared to Israel, His brightness was so bright it lit up the surrounding mountains! We're also given more

information here than the Exodus account reveals, in that Moses tells us that there were *ten thousands of saints* on the Mount Sinai with YHVH when He came to give a ‘fiery law’ to Israel. Psalms 68 gives us insight into this as well...

*The **chariots** of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of angels: the Lord is among them, as in Sinai, in the holy place.*

18 Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell among them.

*19 Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah.
Ps 68:19*

32 Sing unto God, ye kingdoms of the earth; O sing praises unto the Lord; Selah:

*33 To him that **rideth** upon the **heavens** of heavens, which were of old; lo, he doth send out his voice, and that a mighty voice.*

*34 Ascribe ye strength unto God: his excellency is over Israel, and **his strength is in the clouds.**
Ps 68:32-34*

This enlightening Psalm tells us that God indeed rides in a ‘chariot’ and it is a double witness to this chapter of Deuteronomy that YHVH came to Mount Sinai with *thousands* of angels, who were also riding in ‘chariots’. It is no wonder the mountain was so bright! There are a couple words here that should be looked at closer.

“Rideth” is #7392 and means: *to ride (on an animal **or in a vehicle**); causatively, to place upon (for riding or generally), to dispatch.*

“Heavens” is #8064 and means: *to be lofty; the sky (as aloft; the dual perhaps alluding to the visible arch in which the clouds move, as well as to the higher ether where the celestial bodies revolve).*

So, these vehicles of God (YHVH) not only fly in our sky but also in outer space. And the Scriptures also tells us they are *interdimensional* vehicles. For example, in the second book of Kings, the prophet Elisha had an encounter with these ‘heavenly’ vehicles. The Syrians had attempted on several occasions to capture or kill the king of Israel, but each time they were foiled in their attempts because God had relayed warnings to Elisha, who in turn relayed the warnings to the king of Israel. This, of course, very much upset the king of Syria. So much so, that when he found out where Elisha and his servant were staying, he sent a great host of armed soldiers in chariots to surround the area and take Elisha captive. In the morning, when Elisha’s servant got up to prepare for the day, he saw that they were completely surrounded...

15 And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?

16 And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.

*17 And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, **the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire** round about Elisha.*

*18 And when they came down to him, Elisha prayed unto the LORD, and said, **Smite this people, I pray thee, with blindness.** And he smote them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.
2 Kings 6:15-18*

Note the description says they were horses and chariots of fire. This was the only way the people in those days could describe these incredible brightly lighted vehicles that came out of the sky. They had no experience with any vehicles other than animals, wagons and chariots nor of any light other than fire. So, those are the descriptions they used. Ezekiel uses similar descriptions in his account with them. Notice that these vehicles (“horses and chariots”) *came down to Elisha* who then asked (prayed) to YHVH to blind the Syrian army. The technology of our Heavenly Father far surpasses that of our own; and blinding thousands of men was no problem for Him, just as Jesus would many centuries later strike a man named Saul from the sky with a blinding light before converting him from ritualistic Judaism into one of the most persuasive disciples of Christ (Acts 9:1-9). God also gives this power to some of His servants, for the angels who destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah were able to blind the perverts who tried to harm Lot and his family (Gen 19:11). Now, let’s take a quick look at Ezekiel’s description of these vehicles...

1 Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, in the fifth day of the month, as I was among the captives by the river of Chebar, that the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God.

2 In the fifth day of the month, which was the fifth year of king Jehoiachin's captivity,

3 The word of the LORD came expressly unto Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of the LORD was there upon him.

*4 **And I looked, and, behold, a whirlwind came out of the north, a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness was about it, and out of the midst thereof as the colour of amber, out of the midst of the fire.***

5 Also out of the midst thereof came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance; they had the likeness of a man.

6 And every one had four faces, and every one had four wings.

7 And their feet were straight feet; and the sole of their feet was like the sole of a calf's foot: and they sparkled like the colour of burnished brass.

8 And they had the hands of a man under their wings on their four sides; and they four had their faces and their wings.

9 Their wings were joined one to another; they turned not when they went; they went every one straight forward.

10 As for the likeness of their faces, they four had the face of a man, and the face of a lion, on the right side: and they four had the face of an ox on the left side; they four also had the face of an eagle.

11 Thus were their faces: and their wings were stretched upward; two wings of every one were joined one to another, and two covered their bodies.

12 And they went every one straight forward: whither the spirit was to go, they went; and they turned not when they went.

13 As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was **like burning coals of fire, and like the appearance of lamps**: it went up and down among the living creatures; and the fire was bright, and out of the fire went forth lightning.

14 And the living creatures ran and returned **as the appearance of a flash of lightning**.

Ezek 1:1-14

The entire chapter is exciting to study and you can get an in-depth study on it through this link: https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Ezekiel/21. The point we need to bring out here is regarding the fact that these vehicles are also called a ‘whirlwind’. This is a *euphemism*, indicating that the vehicles are circular, and *they spin*. It also implies great speed and power. Our Heavenly Father is indeed a military pilot, but what He pilots is on a grander scale than anything we have ever been able to come up with here on earth. So, we see that the chariots of God are vehicles of war *and* they are also used to relay messages. Again, these vehicles are also *interdimensional* vehicles; they can fly in either the heavenly dimension or this earthly dimension and in outer space. This is why one was used to ‘take up’ Elijah the prophet...

9 And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me.

10 And he said, Thou hast asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so.

11 And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, **there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.**

12 And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof. And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces.

2 Kings 2:9-12

We see from this account why this euphemism came to be: these vehicles were likened to a "**whirlwind**" because they were circular in shape and they spun as they descended to the earth, which creates whirling dust clouds as they near the ground. It's somewhat like the dust cloud kicked up by a modern-day helicopter with its circular whirling blades as it lands on a dirt field. So, yes, the prophet Elijah was taken up into heaven by one of those brightly lighted, circular spinning vehicles. And who was piloting that vehicle? Well, Elijah's helper, the prophet Elisha, knew who that pilot was for he identifies Him as 'My father, my father', the chariot of Israel and the horsemen thereof. Yes, the pilot was our Heavenly Father, who rides upon the heavens in "*the chariot (vehicle) of Israel.*" Our Father allowed Elisha to see that great "*chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof*" as He took Elijah up in that highly illuminated, spinning vehicle. Moreover, the Psalms of David also tell us that God often hides these vehicles in the clouds, while He "*walks on the wings of the wind*" with them...

Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters: who maketh the clouds his chariot: who walketh upon the wings of the wind:

Ps 104:3

Remember earlier when we looked at Psalm 68:34, which states, “*Ascribe ye strength unto God: his excellency is over Israel, and his strength is in the clouds,*”? Yes, the vehicles (chariots) of God hide in the clouds, as they travel. This explains why there was a cloud that ‘overshadowed’ Jesus at the Mount of transfiguration and it also explains how Moses and Elijah got to the mount and were able to talk with Jesus (Mth 17:5). It also explains why Jesus was ‘taken up’ into a cloud into heaven after His death and resurrection (Acts 1:9) and why *He will return in the same way* (Lk 21:27-28). Jesus’ return is also explained in Isa 66:15-16 by using the term ‘whirlwind’ as well as Mth 24:30, Rev 1:7 and 14:14-16 using the term cloud(s).

We also need to keep in mind that not all of these kinds of vehicles are manned by YHVH or His angels. Satan and his fallen angels also have access to these kinds of vehicles and they will be coming to earth before the true Jesus Christ returns, claiming to be the Savior of the world and his angels (2 Thess 2, 2 Cor 11:13-15). Remember, Ezekiel 28 tells us that Satan is very handsome, intelligent and he speaks *very well*; he is *not* a mean, ugly guy with a pitch fork wearing red long underwear. So, **we must mentally and emotionally prepare ourselves for this kind of experience** (2 Tim 2:15) because the first supernatural entities that come to this earth are not going to be the true Jesus Christ and His angels. *When the true Jesus returns everyone will know it because He’ll take over the earth by force* (Mth 13:26-27) and we will no longer be in our flesh bodies (1 Cor 15:51-52). And Jesus’ return will be *after* Satan comes to this earth to rule. Something else to keep in mind is that Satan will not be coming to rule with force but he will gain the worldwide dominion *through promises of peace and flatteries* (Dan 11:21-32).

We see from this selection from the study in Deuteronomy 33 that God had many other vehicles with Him on Mount Sinai, which explains why there was so much ‘smoke’ and ‘fire’! It was an effect of God and His angel’s (i.e., loyal servants) vehicles being on the mountain. And the glory of these amazing vehicles shined for miles, into the surrounding mountains. No doubt, other nations saw this even from afar off and it put fear into even their hearts. But Israel was very close to the mountain and it really scared them! Let’s keep in mind the kind of experience they had here as we move along in our studies of this great book...

Exodus 19

19 And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice.

This was done for the sake of Israel; they needed to see who God was (His power and His might) and that *He answered when Moses called upon Him*. Israel needed to know that Moses was God was real and that Moses was His delegated servant. But, as we now know, this event didn’t stick with the children of Israel. As we’ll see later in Exodus (and throughout the book of Numbers), despite the amazing miracles and experiences such as this, Israel still rebelled against God. Again, this just proves that ‘seeing’ is not ‘believing’. People can see miracles (like in Jesus’

day) and still not believe the truth. Belief in the truth must come from a person's heart and grow to impact their entire thought process which in turn (with time) impacts their words and actions. God's Word can change the very essence of who you are IF you simply believe in His Word. But true change does not come in an instant.

But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience.

Luke 8:15

It takes dedicated determination and perseverance to study and apply God's Word to one's inner most being and *it has to be a commitment for life*. We can now call upon our Heavenly Father too through prayer and it doesn't have to be out loud (although it certainly can be). And, if we're sincere and believe upon His Son, Jesus Christ (who is the Word of God) then God will answer us too. It likely won't be an audible voice like Israel heard Him speaking to Moses in but He will answer us via His Holy Spirit and His Word (the Bible). The question is: do you listen and obey Him? Or are you too distracted by things of the world to care? (Mth 13:3-20).

Exodus 19

*20 And **the LORD came down upon mount Sinai**, on the top of the mount: and the LORD called Moses up to the top of the mount; and Moses went up.*

When God (YHVH) came down upon Mount Sinai, He then called Moses to come up to the mountain. As many times as Moses will have gone up and down that mountain, he must have been given some extra strength by our Heavenly Father for Moses was over 80 years old at this time and they sure did not have any elevators to take him up and down. We should remember that whatever God calls us to do in life, He will give us the ability to do so. If you need extra strength, understanding, courage and/or faith, He will give it to you; He'll help you through...

8 But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend.

9 Thou whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, and called thee from the chief men thereof, and said unto thee, Thou art my servant; I have chosen thee, and not cast thee away.

*10 Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: **I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.***

Isa 41:8-10

*Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and **he shall strengthen thine heart**: wait, I say, on the LORD.*

Ps 27:14

And let's not forget what Jesus told us...

*These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good **cheer**; I have overcome the world.*

John 16:33

The word ‘cheer’ here is #2293 and it means: *to have courage*. It comes from #2294, which means: *boldness*. Jesus doesn’t want us to be timid or scared. He wants us to learn how to use discernment (from His Word and His Holy Spirit) and be bold in what He guides us to do. We shouldn’t be afraid to tell the truth and to take a stand for our Heavenly Father. That’s what we are here for...

13 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Matt 5:13-16

So, as Moses was called up to the mountain, likewise are all His children called to have a personal relationship with Him through Jesus Christ. He wants us all to raise up to a higher level of thinking and mature in His Word. This is, after all, what eternal life is based upon! (John 17:3) We should also remember that this was Pentecost day. And, in the next chapter we’ll see Him give the Ten Commandments to Israel. That was the purpose of His visit: to give Israel His commandments to the National Covenant He had made with Him. And like the first Pentecost day (where God came down to Israel on Mount Sinai), the first Pentecost day after Jesus’ resurrection to Heaven, God came down to the children of Israel again... only this time, in the form of His Holy Spirit...

1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

*3 And **there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.***

*4 And **they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.***

5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.

*6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that **every man heard them speak in his own language.***

7 And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans?

*8 And **how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?***

9 Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia,

10 Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes,

11 *Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.*
12 *And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this?*
13 *Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine.*
14 *But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:*
15 *For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day.*
16 *But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;*
17 ***And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:***
18 ***And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:***
19 *And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:*
20 *The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come:*
21 *And it shall come to pass, that **whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.***
Acts 2:1-21

Peter went on to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ to these people on that great Pentecost day where the Holy Spirit was given to the apostles of Jesus Christ for the express purpose of explaining the ‘wonderful works of God’. In other words, the Holy Spirit explained what keeping God’s Commandments is all about! On the first Pentecost God simply gave His Law but, on the Pentecost where His Holy Spirit was given to His children, *He explained how to keep them*. When we truly believe in Jesus Christ *from the heart*, we’ll study God’s Word and try to obey it. And God will send us His Holy Spirit to help us understand it and also to help us understand how to obey it *from our heart* (not pretending). Notice also that the Holy Spirit spoke in a language that everyone could hear, even in the same dialect (accent) of the town they were born in. This was so people could clearly understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Speaking in tongues is not of God if it cannot be understood. The whole point for God’s Holy Spirit given through the cloven tongue was (and will be again) *for God’s Word to be explained clearly so all can understand* and decide on their own if they want to return (in repentance) to our Heavenly Father. This was made possible through Jesus Christ and it’s *only* through Jesus that people can have eternal life (John 3:16, 14:6). That’s why the Gospel must be preached throughout the entire world before the *true* Jesus Christ will return (Mth 24:14, Mk 13:10).

Exodus 19

21 *And the LORD said unto Moses, Go down, **charge the people**, lest they break through unto the LORD to gaze, and many of them perish.*

YHVH told Moses to go down the mountain again and remind the people not to break through the barriers Moses had set up so none of them died! We should never be ungrateful to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for breaking down these barriers to God for us. By belief in Him and

His precious name, we can call out to God anytime we need through prayer. What a joy and privilege it is to have the barriers torn down and be able to ‘call upon’ our God when we need Him!

10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

11 And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins:

12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

13 From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.

14 For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

15 Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before,

16 This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;

17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.

18 Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin.

*19 **Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,***

20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;

21 And having an high priest over the house of God;

*22 **Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.***

*23 Let us **hold fast** the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)*

24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

Heb 10:10-25

Exodus 19

22 And let the priests also, which come near to the LORD, sanctify themselves, lest the LORD break forth upon them.

What priests was God talking about? We were told a few chapters back...

1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

2 Sanctify unto me all the firstborn, whatsoever openeth the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and of beast: it is mine.

3 And Moses said unto the people, Remember this day, in which ye came out from Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for by strength of hand the LORD brought you out from this place: there shall no leavened bread be eaten.

Ex 13:1-3

Initially, God chose the firstborn son of every family to be the priests to serve Him and He already told Moses to sanctify (clean) them. The firstborn animals were to be given for sacrifices but the firstborn men were reserved to serve God in His soon to be made Tabernacle in the wilderness. However, as we learned back in chapter 13, YHWH would later separate out the tribe of Levi to serve Him in ‘keeping the charge’ of His Tabernacle (Num 1:47-53) due to their being the only tribe that stood with Him after the children of Israel went a whoring after the golden calf in the wilderness (Ex 32:26-35). But, at this point in time, the firstborn men are still considered the priests. And God wanted them to be cleaned. While this only meant physically back then, God has, all along, wanted His children to spiritually clean our soul. Especially those who He chooses to serve Him because they will be near Him (Joel 2:12-14, Ecc 12:3, Mk 12:30, Deut 10:12).

Exodus 19

*23 And Moses said unto the LORD, **The people cannot come up to mount Sinai: for thou chargedst us, saying, Set bounds about the mount, and sanctify it.***

Moses objected to what God was telling him (to bring the priests up to the mountain) because God had already told Moses not to let any of the children of Israel come near the mountain or they would be killed. One thing is for sure, Moses certainly had guts. He was not afraid to speak up to God Almighty although he certainly knew better than to be disrespectful. We should remember this too. Although God is always right and we are always wrong, if we think He is asking us to do something that goes against our understanding of His Word, it’s ok to ask Him for clarification so long as we’re not trying to boss Him around. Another good example of this is found in Acts 9:10-16, one of God’s servants, Ananias, was told by God to go to Saul (Paul) after he had been struck down by Jesus Christ on the way to Damascus. Ananias brought up the fact that he had heard about all the evil Saul had done to the Christians in Jerusalem. This indeed is getting clarification. But, after the Lord explained that He had chosen Saul to serve Him, Ananias didn’t object anymore and went and diligently obeyed God. So, we must always keep a humble and respectful (reverent) attitude with our Heavenly Father but we are supposed to make sure we understand what His Word truly says and what we are truly supposed to do for, as Jesus warned, there are many who claim they serve Jesus Christ and they truly do not (Mth 24:4-5, 23-24, Mk 13:5-6, 21-22, Lk 21:8). It’s our job to ‘try the spirits’ (1 John 4:1). We should also remember that God had the right to give exceptions and/or make specifications to His directions if He so chooses. God had the right to call up whoever He wanted to the mountain. As we’ll see in chapter 24, He had good reason for wanting the Israelite priests to come up.

Exodus 19

24 And the LORD said unto him, Away, get thee down, and thou shalt come up, thou, and Aaron with thee: but let not the priests and the people break through to come up unto the LORD, lest he break forth upon them.

The Lord (YHVH) reiterated that He wanted Moses to go down (and hurry up) and warn the people again not to break through the barriers. And, although He told him not to bring the priests up at this point in time, we'll see later in chapter 24, God will instruct Moses to Aaron, his sons and seventy elders *part way up* the mountain so they could worship 'afar off'. The point was that God wanted to seal the covenant with blood, which we'll see they did do with the elders and priests of Israel present, albeit afar off. Moses was the only one allowed to come near to God but indeed, Exodus 24:11 tells us that the nobles of Israel but they did see God and eat and drink in His sight and God didn't harm. Making this covenant was extremely important to our Heavenly Father for it was fulfilling part of His promises to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob/Israel (Gen 12, 15, 17, 22, 26, 28, 35).

Exodus 19

25 So Moses went down unto the people, and spake unto them.

So, of course, Moses went back down the mountain and reiterated the warning to Israel. We'll see in the next chapter that God gave Israel His Ten Commandments but He also gave them some statutes in the following several chapters. So, we will soon be getting into some law here, much of which is still relevant and in effect but we must *always* remember the blood sacrifices have been done away and this includes any parts of the statutes that deal with the blood sacrifices too (such as circumcision of the flesh for religious purposes; it's not bad to do for hygiene we just don't need to do it for religious reasons anymore). Never forget that our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ has shed His blood for us, *once and for all...*

1 For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.

2 For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins.

3 But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year.

4 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

5 Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me:

6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure.

7 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

8 Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law;

9 Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.

10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Heb 10:1-10

AMEN.