

EXODUS: The Person, Promise, and Power of God

Exodus 34 – The Covenant Restored, Part 2

¹⁰ And he said, “Behold, I am making a covenant. Before all your people I will do marvels, such as have not been created in all the earth or in any nation. And all the people among whom you are shall see the work of the Lord, for it is an awesome thing that I will do with you.

Exodus 34:8-10

Moses’ reaction to God’s revelation of Himself:

⁸ *And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped.*

Bowing in reverence was Moses’ response to what God had shown him of Himself: His compassion, grace, patience, love, faithfulness, forgiveness, and justice.

What is Biblical worship?

Worship is our spirit-filled _____ to God’s _____.

Worship is the natural *response* of a redeemed and Spirit-filled person to the God who has revealed Himself. This *revelation* comes primarily from the reading and preaching of God’s Word.

⁶ *Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! (Psalm 95:6)*

³⁶ *For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen. (Rom 11:36)*

⁹ *O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! (Psalm 8:9)*

A (short) lesson on prayer:

⁹ *And he said, “If now I have found favor in your sight, O Lord, please let the Lord go in the midst of us, for it is a stiff-necked people, and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for your inheritance.” (Ex. 34:9)*

Pray according to God’s _____:

- 1) “please go with us” (Ex. 33:14)
- 2) “pardon our iniquity” (Ex. 34:7)
- 3) “make us your inheritance” (Ex. 19:5)

²¹ *Because of your promise, and according to your own heart, you have brought about all this greatness, to make your servant know it. ²² Therefore you are great, O Lord God. For there is none like you, and there is no God besides you, according to all that we have heard with our ears. ²³ And who is like your people Israel, the one nation on earth whom God went to redeem to be his people, making himself a name and doing for them great and awesome things by driving out before your people, whom you redeemed for yourself from Egypt, a nation and its gods? ²⁴ And you established for yourself your people Israel to be your people forever. And you, O Lord, became their God. ²⁵ And now, O Lord God, confirm forever the word that you have spoken concerning your servant and concerning his house, and do as you have spoken. (David in 2 Samuel 7:21-25)*

Praying “_____ ...” prayers is an exercise in a practical exercise in _____!

God's Self-Glorifying Covenant

¹⁰ And he said, "Behold, I am making a covenant. Before all your people I will do marvels, such as have not been created in all the earth or in any nation. And all the people among whom you are shall see the work of the Lord, for it is an awesome thing that I will do with you. (Ex. 34:10)

A covenant is God's solemn promise that he will give the covenant people certain benefits if they keep the covenant. Keeping the covenant means obeying the terms of the covenant.

A covenant involves three things¹:

1. _____, which God will perform if the people keep the covenant;
2. _____ or terms, which the people must keep in order to receive the promises;
3. _____, of what will happen if the covenant is broken.

God's covenant with Israel was rooted in His own _____.

It was *not* a covenant of _____, but of _____.

⁶ The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, ⁷ keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation." (Ex. 34:6-7)

And God's *purpose* in His covenant of grace with Israel was *with them*, but also *for* the sake of the _____.

By displaying His glory in and through Israel, He was revealing Himself as the one true God of all and calling the nations to _____ Him. God's glory is always for our _____.

Michael Goheen, in his book *Introducing Christian Mission Today* describes God's mission through Israel in three terms:

- _____: "Even though Israel is chosen to be God's covenant people, the whole earth and all nations are clearly in view."
- _____: "Israel's role is to be a light to the nations, to live their lives in such a way that the nations see the true and living God and are attracted to their lives and their God."
- _____: The ultimate goal – the Lord being recognized by all the nations in the life of Israel – hasn't yet happened, and therefore looks to the future for its fullest achievement.

God's Promises, Terms, and Warnings

¹¹ "Observe what I command you this day. Behold, I will drive out before you the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ¹² Take care, lest you make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land to which you go, lest it become a snare in your midst. ¹³ You shall tear down their altars and break their pillars and cut down their Asherim ¹⁴ (for you shall worship no other god, for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God), ¹⁵ lest you make a covenant with the

¹ John Piper: <https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/the-lord-whose-name-is-jealous>

inhabitants of the land, and when they whore after their gods and sacrifice to their gods and you are invited, you eat of his sacrifice, ¹⁶ and you take of their daughters for your sons, and their daughters whore after their gods and make your sons whore after their gods.

¹⁷ *"You shall not make for yourself any gods of cast metal.*

¹⁸ *"You shall keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, as I commanded you, at the time appointed in the month Abib, for in the month Abib you came out from Egypt. ¹⁹ All that open the womb are mine, all your male livestock, the firstborn of cow and sheep. ²⁰ The firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. All the firstborn of your sons you shall redeem. And none shall appear before me empty-handed.*

²¹ *"Six days you shall work, but on the seventh day you shall rest. In plowing time and in harvest you shall rest. ²² You shall observe the Feast of Weeks, the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the Feast of Ingathering at the year's end. ²³ Three times in the year shall all your males appear before the Lord God, the God of Israel. ²⁴ For I will cast out nations before you and enlarge your borders; no one shall covet your land, when you go up to appear before the Lord your God three times in the year.*

²⁵ *"You shall not offer the blood of my sacrifice with anything leavened, or let the sacrifice of the Feast of the Passover remain until the morning. ²⁶ The best of the firstfruits of your ground you shall bring to the house of the Lord your God. You shall not boil a young goat in its mother's milk."*

²⁷ *And the Lord said to Moses, "Write these words, for in accordance with these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel." ²⁸ So he was there with the Lord forty days and forty nights. He neither ate bread nor drank water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments. (ex. 34:11-28)*

Don't _____ with pagans. (Collectively or personally)

Don't _____ with pagans.

Don't _____ like the pagans.

Do keep the _____ and the _____ I have commended.

Do worship me _____ and _____ by ... maintaining a regular pattern of worship*, entering God's sabbath rest, and by offering me your very best.

3 annual (pilgrim) feasts*:

- 1) Feast of Unleavened Bread ...
- 2) Feast of Weeks ...
- 3) Feast of Tabernacles ...

Why?

"... for you shall worship no other god, for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God." (v. 14)

"The jealousy of God is his holy commitment to his honor, glory, and love that manifests itself in the salvation of his people and the just condemnation of all who stand in opposition to him." (Kirk Wellum)

Thus, the ultimate demand of the Covenant is _____.

The Shining Face of Moses

²⁹ When Moses came down from Mount Sinai, with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand as he came down from the mountain, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰ Aaron and all the people of Israel saw Moses, and behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹ But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses talked with them. ³² Afterward all the people of Israel came near, and he commanded them all that the Lord had spoken with him in Mount Sinai. ³³ And when Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face.

³⁴ Whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would remove the veil, until he came out. And when he came out and told the people of Israel what he was commanded, ³⁵ the people of Israel would see the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face was shining. And Moses would put the veil over his face again, until he went in to speak with him. (Exodus 34:29-35)

The glory of _____ ...

The glory of the _____, Moses ...

The glory of the _____ of _____ ...

⁷ Now if the ministry of death, carved in letters on stone, came with such glory that the Israelites could not gaze at Moses' face because of its glory, which was being brought to an end, ⁸ will not the ministry of the Spirit have even more glory? ⁹ For if there was glory in the ministry of condemnation, the ministry of righteousness must far exceed it in glory. ¹⁰ Indeed, in this case, what once had glory has come to have no glory at all, because of the glory that surpasses it. ¹¹ For if what was being brought to an end came with glory, much more will what is permanent have glory. (2 Cor. 3:7-11)

And our _____ glory ...

¹² Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, ¹³ not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. ¹⁴ But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. ¹⁵ Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. ¹⁶ But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. (2 Cor. 3:12-18)

Next week: Exodus 35 – Worship and Generosity