

## Exodus Part 27(Chapter 34)

**Exo 34:1** The LORD said to Moses, "Chisel out two stone tablets like the first ones, and I will write on them the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke.

**Exo 34:2** Be ready in the morning, and then come up on Mount Sinai. Present yourself to me there on top of the mountain.

**Exo 34:3** No one is to come with you or be seen anywhere on the mountain; not even the flocks and herds may graze in front of the mountain."

**Exo 34:4** So Moses chiseled out two stone tablets like the first ones and went up Mount Sinai early in the morning, as the LORD had commanded him; and he carried the two stone tablets in his hands.

**Exo 34:5** Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD.

**Exo 34:6** And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness,

**Exo 34:7** maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation."

**Exo 34:8** Moses bowed to the ground at once and worshiped.

**Exo 34:9** "Lord," he said, "if I have found favor in your eyes, then let the Lord go with us. Although this is a stiff-necked people, forgive our wickedness and our sin, and take us as your inheritance."

### **The Covenant Renewed**

**Exo 34:10** Then the LORD said: "I am making a covenant with you. Before all your people I will do wonders never before done in any nation in all the world. The people you live among will see how awesome is the work that I, the LORD, will do for you.

**Exo 34:11** Obey what I command you today. I will drive out before you the Amorites, Canaanites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites.

**Exo 34:12** Be careful not to make a treaty with those who live in the land where you are going, or they will be a snare among you.

**Exo 34:13** Break down their altars, smash their sacred stones and cut down their Asherah poles.

**Exo 34:14** Do not worship any other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.

**Exo 34:15** "Be careful not to make a treaty with those who live in the land; for when they prostitute themselves to their gods and sacrifice to them, they will invite you and you will eat their sacrifices.

**Exo 34:16** And when you choose some of their daughters as wives for your sons and those daughters prostitute themselves to their gods, they will lead your sons to do the same.

**Exo 34:17** "Do not make any idols.

**Exo 34:18** "Celebrate the Festival of Unleavened Bread. For seven days eat bread made without yeast, as I commanded you. Do this at the appointed time in the month of Aviv, for in that month you came out of Egypt.

**Exo 34:19** "The first offspring of every womb belongs to me, including all the firstborn males of your livestock, whether from herd or flock.

**Exo 34:20** Redeem the firstborn donkey with a lamb, but if you do not redeem it, break its neck. Redeem all your firstborn sons. "No one is to appear before me empty-handed.

**Exo 34:21** "Six days you shall labor, but on the seventh day you shall rest; even during the plowing season and harvest you must rest.

**Exo 34:22** "Celebrate the Festival of Weeks with the firstfruits of the wheat harvest, and the Festival of Ingathering at the turn of the year.

**Exo 34:23** Three times a year all your men are to appear before the Sovereign LORD, the God of Israel.

**Exo 34:24** I will drive out nations before you and enlarge your territory, and no one will covet your land when you go up three times each year to appear before the LORD your God.

**Exo 34:25** "Do not offer the blood of a sacrifice to me along with anything containing yeast, and do not let any of the sacrifice from the Passover Festival remain until morning.

**Exo 34:26** "Bring the best of the firstfruits of your soil to the house of the LORD your God. "Do not cook a young goat in its mother's milk."

**Exo 34:27** Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write down these words, for in accordance with these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel."

**Exo 34:28** Moses was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights without eating bread or drinking water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant--the Ten Commandments.

### **The Shining Face of Moses**

**Exo 34:29** When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the covenant law in his hands, he was not aware that his face was radiant because he had spoken with the LORD.

**Exo 34:30** When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, his face was radiant, and they were afraid to come near him.

**Exo 34:31** But Moses called to them; so Aaron and all the leaders of the community came back to him, and he spoke to them.

**Exo 34:32** Afterward all the Israelites came near him, and he gave them all the commands the LORD had given him on Mount Sinai.

**Exo 34:33** When Moses finished speaking to them, he put a veil over his face.

**Exo 34:34** But whenever he entered the LORD's presence to speak with him, he removed the veil until he came out. And when he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded,

**Exo 34:35** they saw that his face was radiant. Then Moses would put the veil back over his face until he went in to speak with the LORD.

Exodus 34 relates to the New Testament by establishing God's character as merciful, gracious, and just which is fulfilled in Jesus Christ (John 1:14-17). It acts as a foundation for the New Covenant, highlighting God's grace after the Golden Calf incident, and its themes are echoed in the Transfiguration and Pauline teachings regarding glory, mediation, and transformed hearts.

**John 1:14** The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**John 1:15** (John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, "This is the one I spoke about when I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'")

**John 1:16** Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given.

**John 1:17** For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

**John 1:18** No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

#### **Key Connections to the New Testament:**

- **Character of God (Grace and Truth):** Exodus 34:6–7, where God reveals Himself as merciful and gracious to Moses, is foundational to the New Testament description of Jesus. John 1:14-17 contrasts the law given through Moses with the "grace and truth" that came through Jesus, showcasing Christ as the ultimate revelation of the character described in Exodus.

- **The New Covenant:** Exodus 34, which details the renewal of the tablets, is seen as a precursor to the New Covenant mentioned in Jeremiah and realized in Jesus, offering restoration after rebellion.
- **Transfiguration of Jesus:** The scene in Exodus 34:29-35, where Moses' face shines after being in God's presence, is echoed in the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-9). Jesus is depicted as superior to Moses, as his face does not just reflect glory but shines with his own inherent divine glory.

**Matthew 17:1** After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves.

**Mat 17:2** There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light.

**Mat 17:3** Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

**Mat 17:4** Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters--one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah."

**Mat 17:5** While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

**Mat 17:6** When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified.

**Mat 17:7** But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid."

**Mat 17:8** When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

**Mat 17:9** As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

- **Glory and Unveiled Hearts:** In 2 Corinthians 3:16-18, Paul directly contrasts the fading glory of Moses' face (which required a veil) with the lasting, transformative glory of God seen "unveiled" in Christ, which transforms believers.

**2Co 3:9** If the ministry that brought condemnation was glorious, how much more glorious is the ministry that brings righteousness!

**2Co 3:10** For what was glorious has no glory now in comparison with the surpassing glory.

**2Co 3:11** And if what was transitory came with glory, how much greater is the glory of that which lasts!

**2Co 3:12** Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold.

**2Co 3:13** We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to prevent the Israelites from seeing the end of what was passing away.

**2Co 3:14** But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away.

**2Co 3:15** Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts.

**2Co 3:16** But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

**2Co 3:17** Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

**2Co 3:18** And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

- **The Mediator:** Exodus 34 shows Moses mediating on behalf of a sinful people, a role that foreshadows Christ as the ultimate mediator between God and humanity.

In essence, Exodus 34 shows that the grace and mercy emphasized in the New Testament were present in the Old Testament, with Christ serving as the full manifestation of that character.