

Moses - 4 - God's Lawgiver

Israel Arrives at Sinai

The next phase of Moses life began soon after they passed through the Red Sea as they reached Mt Sinai and camped there.

*In the third month after the children of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on the same day, they came to **the Wilderness of Sinai**. 2 For they had departed from Rephidim, had come to the Wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness. So **Israel camped there before the mountain**. 3 And Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel: 4 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself. 5 Now therefore, **if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people**; for all the earth is Mine. 6 And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel." Ex 19:1-6*

At that moment, the children of Israel made the commitment to do all that God asked of them.

So Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before them all these words which the Lord commanded him. 8 Then all the people answered together and said, "All that the Lord has spoken we will do." So Moses brought back the words of the people to the Lord. 9 And the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, I come to you in the thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and believe you forever." Ex 19:7-9

God gave the Ten Commandments

Three days after this commitment, God gave them an experience they should never have forgotten to reveal to them how awesome, powerful and mighty He is.

Then it came to pass on the third day, in the morning, that there were thunderings and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled. 17 And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. 18 Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly. 19 And when the blast of the trumpet sounded long and became louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him by voice. Ex 19:16-20

God then spoke the ten commandments from heaven to put His awe, fear and reverence into their hearts(Ex 20:1-17):

And God spoke all these words, saying:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. You shall have no other gods before Me. | 6. You shall not murder |
| 2. You shall not make for yourself a carved image | 7. You shall not commit adultery |
| 3. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain | 8. You shall not steal |
| 4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. | 9. You shall not bear false witness |
| 5. Honor your father and your mother | 10. You shall not covet |

God wanted all future generations to know how extraordinary this event was. Not only was God speaking these word in a voice like thunder, but there was actual thunder and lightning, A sound of the trumpet, the mountain smoking that led even Moses to say "I am exceedingly afraid and trembling."

For you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, 19 and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard it begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore. 20 (For they could not endure what was commanded: "And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned or shot with an arrow." 21 And so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.") Heb 12:18-21

After this event, the people promise even more fervently to obey the Lord and plead with the Moses that he alone should hear these words and bring them to them.

Now all the people witnessed the thunderings, the lightning flashes, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw it, they trembled and stood afar off. 19 Then they said to Moses, "You speak with us, and we will hear; but let not God speak with us, lest we die." And Moses said to the people, "Do not fear; for God has come to test you, and that His fear may be before you, so that you may not sin." 21 So the people stood afar off, but Moses drew near the thick darkness where God was. Ex 20:18-21

After these events, Moses himself was called to come into the mountain and remained there for forty days and nights.

Now the glory of the Lord rested on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. 17 The sight of the glory of the Lord was like a consuming fire on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel. 18 So Moses went into the midst of the cloud and went up into the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and

forty nights. Ex 24:16-18

Plans for the Tabernacle

While on Mount Sinai for these forty days, God gave Moses many laws and ordinances and he also gave the plans for the tabernacle.

Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: 2 "Speak to the children of Israel, that they bring Me an offering. From everyone who gives it willingly with his heart you shall take My offering. 3 And this is the offering which you shall take from them: gold, silver, and bronze; 4 blue, purple, and scarlet thread, fine linen, and goats' hair; 5 ram skins dyed red, badger skins, and acacia wood; 6 oil for the light, and spices for the anointing oil and for the sweet incense; 7 onyx stones, and stones to be set in the ephod and in the breastplate. 8 And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them. 9 According to all that I show you, that is, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so you shall make it. Ex 25:1-9

God then gave the plans and details for each of the things that were to be placed in the tabernacle along with the building of the tabernacle itself.

Ark of the Covenant	25:10-16	Curtains	26:1-14	Alter of Burnt offering	27:1-8
The Mercy Seat	25:17-22	Boards	26:15-30	Dimensions - Court	27:9-16
Table of show bread	25:23-30	Veil	26:31-35	Bronze Laver	30:17-21
Golden Lampstand	25:31-40	Screen	26:36-37		
Altar of Incense	30:1-10				

God used Inspiration to Build Everything in the Tabernacle

The details given in the Scriptures we possess are far too vague to create exactly what God desired so he did two things.

*And see to it that you make them according to **the pattern which was shown you on the mountain...** 30 And you shall raise up the tabernacle according to its pattern which you were shown on the mountain. Ex 25:40; 26:30*

*Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: 2 "See, **I have called by name Bezalel** the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. 3 And **I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship,** 4 **to design artistic works, to work in gold, in silver, in bronze,** 5 **in cutting jewels for setting, in carving wood,** and to work in **all manner of workmanship.** 6 "And I, indeed I, have appointed with him Aholiab the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan; and **I have put wisdom in the hearts of all the gifted artisans, that they may make all that I have commanded you:** 7 the **tabernacle of meeting,** the **ark of the Testimony** and the **mercy seat** that is on it, and all the furniture of the tabernacle — 8 the **table** and its utensils, the **pure gold lampstand** with all its utensils, the altar of incense, 9 the **altar of burnt offering** with all its utensils, and the laver and its base Ex 31:1-9*

*And Moses said to the children of Israel, "See, the Lord has called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah; 31 and **He has filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom and understanding, in knowledge and all manner of workmanship,** ... 34 "And He has put in his heart **the ability to teach, in him and Aholiab the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan.** 35 He has filled them with skill to do all manner of work of the **engraver** and the **designer** and the **tapestry maker,** in blue, purple, and scarlet thread, and fine linen, and of the weaver — **those who do every work and those who design artistic works.** Ex 35:30-35*

The work was overseen by the Holy Spirit and everything made was exactly as God envisioned it because it had a very specific purpose.

*For if He were on earth, He would not be a priest, since there are priests who offer the gifts according to the law; 5 who serve **the copy and shadow of the heavenly things,** as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, "**See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.**" 6 But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises. Heb 8:4-6*

*It was necessary therefore that **the copies of the things in the heavens** should be cleansed with these; but **the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.** Heb 9:23*

*But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with **the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation.** Heb 9:11-12*