

B. Establishment of the Nation (20-40)

1. Giving of the law (20-24)

i. The ten words (20)

- a. The children of Israel hear the Lord giving them the 10 commandments, part of the covenant they were to obey if they were to be a holy nation to him.
 - 1) The people responded by trembling with fear and saying to Moses, "Please, don't let God speak to us any more. If we do we'll die. Moses let God speak to you and you speak to us."
 - 2) Moses said, "Now don't be afraid. Do you know why the Lord has done this? The Lord has done this because that fear of Him will keep you from sinning against him. If you fear God and reverence God it will keep you from sinning against him (20:18-20)."
- b. Moses takes Aaron and goes into the mountain.
- c. This is the 4th time Moses goes up into the mountain.
 - 1) That is when the Lord gives the rest of the law starting with Ex 20:22 and going through Ex 23.
 - 2) These are the rest of the laws that Israel is to obey if they are going to be a holy nation with the Lord as their God and they as His people.

ii. Civil ordinances (22-23)

iii. Ratification of the covenant (24)

- a. Moses and Aaron come down from the mountain and tell them everything the Lord has said from Ex 20:22 - Ex 23.
- b. The people say that they will obey all the commandments.
- c. Moses then writes the commandments down.
- d. Moses has a ceremony to ratify the covenant that the people of Israel are making with the Lord.
- e. That ceremony is this:
 - 1) He build an altar.
 - 2) He has twelve pillars, each one representing one of the twelve tribes of Israel.
 - 3) On that altar, he offers burnt offerings and fellowship offerings.
 - 4) He takes the blood from those sacrifices.
 - i) He puts half of the blood on the altar.
 - a) The altar represents the Lord.
 - b) He is One of the two parties in this covenant.