### Exodus

## Chapter 34

1And the Lord said to Moses:  
  
 ‘Now, you must cut two tablets of stone like the first ones, and climb the mountain to Me; then I’ll write the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke.  
  
 2‘So, be ready to climb Mount SinAi in the morning, and then stand there [and wait] for Me at the top of the Mountain... 3Don’t allow anyone to go up with you or to even be seen on the Mountain! And don’t allow any sheep or bulls to graze near the Mountain.’  
  
  
4So [Moses] cut two stone tablets just like the first, and he got up early and climbed Mount SinAi, just as the Lord had told him, carrying the two stone tablets.  
  
5Then the Lord descended in a cloud and stood close to him, as He called out the Name, Jehovah. 6And the Lord passed before his face while He was saying:  
  
 ‘Jehovah, the God of mercy, pity, patience, concern, and truth, 7who brings justice and mercy to thousands, and removes wrong-doing, unrighteousness, and sins, but who won’t acquit the guilty...  
  
 ‘He’s the One who [punishes] the sins of ancestors on their children and on their children’s children to the 3rd and 4th generations.’  
  
8Then Moses quickly bowed to the earth and prayed:  
  
 9‘If You care for me; may my Lord go with us, because these people are stubborn. Then You’ll remove our sins and our failings, and we’ll be Your people.’  
  
  
10And after that, the Lord said to Moses:  
  
 ‘{Look!} I am establishing a Sacred Agreement with you in the presence of all your people.  
  
 ‘I’ll do wonderful things that have never been done before anywhere on the earth or in any nation!  
  
 ‘Everyone among you will see the deeds that I’ll do for you… For they’re wonderful.  
  
 11‘However, make sure that you do everything that I’ve told you to do. Then {Look!} I’ll throw the Amorites, CanaAnites, Pherezites, Chettites, Evites, Gergeshites, and Jebusites out from before you.  
  
  
 12‘Be careful not to make any agreements with the people who live in the land that you’re entering, for fear that they’ll become stones to stumble you!  
  
  
 13‘You must destroy their altars and smash their [sacred] columns, cut off their water, and burn the images of their gods... 14You must not worship other gods, because Jehovah, which is a zealous Name, is a zealous God.  
  
  
 15‘Never make pacts with people who live in this land and then commit ‘adultery’ with their gods, or sacrifice to their gods, or have them call you to eat at their feasts.  
  
  
 16‘You shouldn’t take their daughters as wives for your sons, nor should you give your daughters to their sons, so your sons and daughters don’t become ‘adulterers’ with their gods.  
  
  
 17‘You aren’t to mold [any images of] gods for yourselves.  
  
  
 18‘You must keep the Feast of Fermentation-Free Bread and eat fermentation-free bread for 7 days, just as I’ve told you, in the month and season of new grain… Because, that’s when you came out of Egypt.  
  
  
 19‘All the first-born males are Mine… Yes, everyone who first opens the womb, including all your first-born oxen and sheep.  
  
 20‘But when it comes to the first-born of burros; you must pay a ransom for them using a sheep or with money. You must also pay a ransom for your first-born sons… Don’t come to Me empty-handed!  
  
  
 21‘You can work for 6 days, but you must rest on the 7th day, whether it’s during the seed [planting] time or the harvest.  
  
  
 22‘You must also observe the Feast of Weeks for Me at the beginning of the wheat harvest and at the harvest in the middle of the year. 23So, every male must appear before Jehovah the God of IsraEl three times each year.  
  
 24‘For after I’ve driven the nations away from before you and enlarged your borders, no one will really desire your land… That is, as long as you go up to appear before Jehovah your God three times each year!  
  
  
 25‘You must not offer the blood of My sacrifices with any fermentation, nor should the Passover sacrifices remain until the next morning.  
  
  
 26‘The first fruits of your land must be taken to the House of your God Jehovah.  
  
  
 ‘You must not boil a young goat in its mother’s milk.’  
  
  
27Then the Lord told Moses:  
  
 ‘Write all of these words down, because they are the words of My Sacred Agreement with you and with IsraEl.’  
  
  
28Well, Moses was there [on the mountain] with Jehovah for 40 days and 40 nights; and during that entire time, he didn’t eat any bread or drink any water! Then He wrote the words of the Sacred Agreement (the Ten Commandments) on the tablets.  
  
29So when Moses came down the Mountain, he had the two tablets in his hands... But, as he was coming down, he didn’t realize that his face was glowing because of his conversation with God! 30And when Aaron and all the elders of IsraEl saw Moses’ face radiating, they were afraid to come any closer.  
  
31However, when Moses called to them, Aaron and all the heads of the gathering turned towards him, as he started speaking to them.  
  
32And after that, all the children of IsraEl also came to him, and he told them all the Commandments that Jehovah had given to him on Mount SinAi.  
  
  
33Then, after he’d finished speaking to them, he put a veil over his face. 34Yet, whenever Moses went in to speak to Jehovah, he would remove the veil until he [came back outside] to tell the children of IsraEl what the Lord had said to him.  
  
35[Of course], it was because the children of IsraEl could see Moses’ face radiating that he wore the veil over it after going in to speak to the Lord.