

Exodus 20 provides Israel with a life-changing encounter with God who provides commands to restore a right relationship with God and others. Are you right with God and others?

1. God's vision for His people. Ex. 19:3-6
I want you to be My treasured possession, A Kingdom of priests and a Holy Nation.
2. God's preparation for His Covenant people. Ex. 19:10-11
A) You need to consecrate yourselves, wash your clothes and establish boundaries

.. . The consecration which meets God's demands and which he accepts is to be full, complete, with no mental reservation, with nothing withheld. It cannot be partial, any more than a whole burnt offering in Old Testament times could have been partial. The whole animal had to be offered in sacrifice. To reserve any part of the animal would have seriously vitiated the offering. So to make a half-hearted, partial consecration is to make no consecration at all, and is to fail utterly in securing the divine acceptance. It involves our whole being, all we have and all that we are. Everything is definitely and voluntarily placed in God's hands for his supreme use.

B) Reasons to listen to God. 20:2

I am the Lord your God...I brought you out of Egypt...I freed you from slavery (bondage).

3. The commands are grouped into 2 categories: . Vs. 3-17
 - A) 1-4 speak about our relationship with God.
 - 1) You shall have no other god's before me.
 - 2) You shall not make for yourself a graven image.
 - 3) You shall not take the name of the lord your God in vain.
 - 4) Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy.
 - B) Commandments 5-10 focus on our relationship with the community.
 - 5) Honor your Father and Mother.
 - 6) You shall not kill
 - 7) Don't commit adultery
 - 8) You shall not steal
 - 9) You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
 - 10) You shall not covet.The law is the light that reveals how dirty the room is, not the broom that sweeps it clean.
4. The people's response to God. Vs. 18-26
 - A) They were frightened to the point of death.
 - B) Moses said, don't fear. "The fear of God keeps you from sinning."
 - C) Remember, "Don't make other gods, and make an altar to altar your life.
 - D) When God's name is honored, it brings blessing. God loves you, has provided the way for you to be restored to Him which is consistent with His revealed character of love and mercy.

Conclusion...God's has a vision for you (I Peter 2:9). It requires yielding completely to Jesus who sees clearly the present and the future. Will you invite Christ to give you a heart of flesh and remove your heart of stone? For those who feel defeated? Will you ask for courage and the power of the Holy Spirit to change? Eph. 5:18