

**100 Bible Stories**  
26. The Giving of the Law

**Exodus 19 - 20 (NKJV)**

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. <sup>2</sup>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.

<sup>3</sup>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: <sup>4</sup>You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>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."

<sup>7</sup>So Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before them all these words which the Lord commanded him. <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>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." So Moses told the words of the people to the Lord.

<sup>10</sup>Then the Lord said to Moses, "Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes. <sup>11</sup>And let them be ready for the third day. For on the third day the Lord will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. <sup>12</sup>You shall set bounds for the people all around, saying, 'Take heed to yourselves that you do not go up to the mountain or touch its base. Whoever touches the mountain shall surely be put to death. <sup>13</sup>Not a hand shall touch him, but he shall surely be stoned or shot with an arrow; whether man or beast, he shall not live.' When the trumpet sounds long, they shall come near the mountain."

<sup>14</sup>So Moses went down from the mountain to the people and sanctified the people, and they washed their clothes. <sup>15</sup>And he said to the people, "Be ready for the third day; do not come near your wives."

<sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain... **the giving of the commandments ch. 19.1f**

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. <sup>19</sup>Then they said to Moses, "You speak with us, and we will hear; but let not God speak with us, lest we die." <sup>20</sup>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." <sup>21</sup>So the people stood afar off, but Moses drew near the thick darkness where God was.

<sup>24.18</sup>And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

God reminds them of His grace/character.

Fear of God;

Reaction of the people.