

Chapter 5

New Commands and a New Covenant

Day One – 10 Commandments

Today's reading: Pages 59-to the break on page 63

This reading covers: Exodus 19-31

Summary: God's people respond to his commandments.

Consider this:

God has kept the Israelites through many tough times in Egypt and while escaping slavery. When God gives them his commandments, they respond in one voice saying, "Everything the Lord has said we will do." In what ways has God kept you through tough times and struggles? Have you ever said to God, "Anything you say I will do?" In what ways have you followed God into the unknown like the Israelites into the desert?

For further reading: 1 Corinthians 10:31; Colossians 3:17

Prayer:

Lord, thank you for keeping me and sustaining me in tough times. I pray I will do anything you say and follow you into the unknown in the knowledge that you will protect me and bless me. In your name I pray, Amen.

Day Two – Short-lived Commitment

Today's reading: Page from break on page 63 through break on page 66

This reading covers: Exodus 32

Summary: The temporary nature of our commitment.

Consider this:

Chapter 5 begins with God telling Moses to remind the people how he has kept them safe from Egypt and carried them "on eagles' wings". He says if they will keep his covenant they will be blessed. Why do you think the Israelites would continue to forget how God kept and protected them? Why would they have a tough time keeping his covenant? Why would they have the most difficult time keeping the first and second commandments with worshipping idols and other gods?

For further reading: Daniel 3:16-18; Isaiah 40:30-31; Psalm 61

Prayer:

Lord, please help me to sustain my commitment to you and not have it be short-lived. Please help me to keep your commandments and put nothing else before you. Help me to renew my strength and soar on wings like eagles. In your name, Amen.

Day Three – God’s Presence

Today’s reading: Break on page 66 through end of chapter

This reading covers: Exodus 33-40

Summary: Moses expresses dependence upon the presence of God

Consider this:

Moses proclaims God to be a “compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.” Where have you seen God exhibit these qualities in your own life? Moses also talks about the “sin of the parents.” What do you think about your legacy to your children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren in terms of sin? Finally, Moses’ face is radiant because he has spoken with the Lord. After speaking with God, how has your life been changed? Can people see this change just as they could see Moses’ glowing face?

For further reading: Romans 5:6-8; 2 Corinthians 3:7-18

Prayer:

Lord, thank you for your compassion and grace. Thank you for your love and faithfulness. Please take away my sin and help me to leave a legacy of righteousness to my children and grandchildren. Please have people see the radiance in my face after speaking to you. Please let them see the way you change me. Thank you, Lord. Amen.