

ENGAGING GOSPEL DOCTRINE 91.2

Lesson 14 (Study Notes): “Ye Shall Be a Peculiar Treasure unto Me”

Class Member Reading: Exodus 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 32, 33, 34; JST Deut. 10:2; John 6:35, 48-51; Galatians 3:23-24; Mosiah 13:29-30; Alma 25:15-16; Alma 34:14-15; 3 Nephi 15:4-10; D&C 84:19-27

Exodus 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 32, 33, 34; (makes me happy whenever we have a big block of scripture reading)

Themes to look for in the reading:

The Song of Moses

Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:

‘I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.

² The **LORD is my strength and my might,
and he has become my salvation;**

this is my God, and I will praise him,
my father’s God, and I will exalt him.

³ The LORD is a warrior;
the LORD is his name.

⁴ ‘Pharaoh’s chariots and his army he cast into the sea;
his picked officers were sunk in the Red Sea.

⁵ The floods covered them;
they went down into the depths like a stone.

⁶ Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power—
your right hand, O LORD, shattered the enemy.

⁷ In the greatness of your majesty you overthrew your adversaries;
you sent out your fury, it consumed them like stubble.

⁸ At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up,
the floods stood up in a heap;

the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea. (Note that there is no explicit parting of

⁹ The enemy said, “I will pursue, I will overtake,
I will divide the spoil, my desire shall have its fill of them.
I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.”

¹⁰ You blew with your wind, the sea covered them;
they sank like lead in the mighty waters.

¹¹ ‘Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods? (You know that song in Prince of Egypt when the kids are singing? This is what they are saying in Hebrew)

Who is like you, majestic in holiness,
awesome in splendour, doing wonders?

¹² You stretched out your right hand,
the earth swallowed them.

¹³ ‘In your **steadfast love you led the people whom you redeemed;**
you **guided them by your strength to your holy abode.** Beautiful wording.

¹⁴ The peoples heard, they trembled;
pangs seized the inhabitants of Philistia.

¹⁵ Then the chiefs of Edom were dismayed;
trembling seized the leaders of Moab;
all the inhabitants of Canaan melted away.

¹⁶ Terror and dread fell upon them;
by the might of your arm, they became still as a stone
until your people, O LORD, passed by,
until the people whom you acquired passed by.

¹⁷ You brought them in and planted them on the mountain of your own possession,
the place, O LORD, that you made your abode,
the sanctuary, O LORD, that your hands have established.

¹⁸ The LORD will reign for ever and ever.’

¹⁹ When the horses of Pharaoh with his chariots and his chariot drivers went into the sea, the LORD brought back the waters of the sea upon them; but the Israelites walked through the sea on dry ground.

The Song of Miriam

²⁰ Then the prophet Miriam (Note that Miriam is called a prophet!), Aaron’s sister,

took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. ²¹And Miriam sang to them: ‘Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.’

Bitter Water Made Sweet

22 Then Moses ordered Israel to set out from the Red Sea, and they went into the wilderness of Shur. They went for three days in the wilderness and found no water. ²³When they came to Marah, they could not drink the water of Marah because it was bitter. That is why it was called Marah. ²⁴And the people complained against Moses, saying, ‘What shall we drink?’ ²⁵He cried out to the LORD; and the LORD showed him a piece of wood; he threw it into the water, and the water became sweet.

There the LORD made for them a statute and an ordinance and there he put them to the test. ²⁶He said, ‘If you will listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God, and do what is right in his sight, and give heed to his commandments and keep all his statutes, I will not bring upon you any of the diseases that I brought upon the Egyptians; for **I am the LORD who heals you.**’ *What a great description. (God seems to be using the analogy of healing the water as a way of teaching how we are healed)*

27 Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees; and they camped there by the water.

Bread from Heaven

The whole congregation of the Israelites set out from Elim; and Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had departed from the land of Egypt. ²The **whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron** in the wilderness. ³The Israelites said to them, ‘If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.’

4 Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. ⁵On the sixth day, when they

prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.’⁶ So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, ‘In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt,⁷ and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?’⁸ And Moses said, ‘When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD.’ **God’s response to the complaining is the meet the Israelite’s needs, though Moses and Aaron reprimand them.**

9 Then Moses said to Aaron, ‘Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, “**Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.**” ’¹⁰ And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked towards the wilderness, and the **glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud.**¹¹ The LORD spoke to Moses and said,¹² ‘I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, “At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.” ’ **(Personal application here—listen for the needs beneath the complaints?)**

13 In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp.¹⁴ When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground.¹⁵ When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, ‘**What is it?**’ (“Manna” sounds like the Hebrew for “What is it?” *Man hoo*) For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, ‘It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.’¹⁶ This is what the LORD has commanded: “Gather as much of it **as each of you needs**, an omer to a person according to the number of persons, all providing for those in their own tents.”¹⁷ The Israelites did so, some gathering more, some less.¹⁸ But when they measured it with an omer, those who gathered much had nothing over, and those who gathered little had no shortage; they gathered as much as each of them needed.¹⁹ And Moses said to them, ‘Let no one leave any of it over until morning.’²⁰ But they did not listen to Moses; some left part of it until morning, and it bred worms and became foul. And Moses was angry with them.²¹ **Morning by morning they gathered it, as much as each needed;** but when the sun grew hot, it melted. **Note the repetition about gathering “according to our needs”**

22 On the sixth day they gathered twice as much food, two omers apiece. When all the

leaders of the congregation came and told Moses,²³ he said to them, ‘This is what the LORD has commanded: “Tomorrow is a day of solemn rest, a holy sabbath to the LORD; bake what you want to bake and boil what you want to boil, and all that is left over put aside to be kept until morning.” ’²⁴ So they put it aside until morning, as Moses commanded them; and it did not become foul, and there were no worms in it.²⁵ Moses said, ‘Eat it today, for today is a sabbath to the LORD; today you will not find it in the field.’²⁶ For six days you shall gather it; but on the seventh day, which is a sabbath, there will be none.’

27 On the seventh day some of the people went out to gather, and they found none.²⁸ The LORD said to Moses, ‘How long will you refuse to keep my commandments and instructions?’²⁹ See! The LORD has given you the sabbath, therefore on the sixth day he gives you food for two days; each of you stay where you are; do not leave your place on the seventh day.’³⁰ So the people rested on the seventh day. **Emphasis on the Sabbath (discuss sacred time)**

31 The house of Israel called it manna; it was like coriander seed, white, and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey.³² Moses said, ‘This is what the LORD has commanded: “Let an omer of it be kept throughout your generations, in order that they may see the food with which I fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you out of the land of Egypt.” ’³³ And Moses said to Aaron, ‘Take a jar, and put an omer of manna in it, and place it before the LORD, to be kept throughout your generations.’³⁴ As the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron placed it before the covenant, for safe-keeping.³⁵ The Israelites ate manna for forty years, until they came to a habitable land; they ate manna, until they came to the border of the land of Canaan.³⁶ An omer is a tenth of an ephah.

Water from the Rock

17 From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink.² The **people quarreled with Moses**, (**Same themes of complaining against God and questioning leaders**) and said, ‘Give us water to drink.’ Moses said to them, ‘Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?’³ But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, ‘Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?’⁴ So Moses cried out to the LORD, ‘What shall I do with this people? They are

almost ready to stone me.’⁵ The LORD said to Moses, ‘Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. **I will be standing there in front of you** on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.’ Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel.⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the LORD, saying, ‘Is the LORD among us or not?’

Amalek Attacks Israel and Is Defeated

8 Then Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim.⁹ Moses said to Joshua, ‘Choose some men for us and go out; fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand.’¹⁰ So Joshua did as Moses told him, and fought with Amalek, while Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill.¹¹ Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed; and whenever he lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed.¹² But Moses’ hands grew weary; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; so his hands were steady until the sun set.¹³ And Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with the sword. *Kind of an odd little account, though I do wonder if the phrasing “lift up the hands that hang down” (D&C 81:5) comes from here. If taken literally it sounds like magic.*

14 Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘Write this as a reminder in a book and recite it in the hearing of Joshua: I will utterly blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.’¹⁵ And Moses built an altar and called it, The LORD is my banner.¹⁶ He said, ‘A hand upon the banner of the LORD! The LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation.’

Jethro’s Advice

18 Jethro, the priest of Midian, Moses’ father-in-law, heard of all that God had done for Moses and for his people Israel, how the LORD had brought Israel out of Egypt.² After Moses had sent away his wife Zipporah, his father-in-law Jethro took her back,³ along with her two sons. The name of one was Gershom (for he said, ‘I have been an alien in a foreign land’),⁴ and the name of the other, Eliezer (for he said, ‘The God of my father was my help, and delivered me from the sword of Pharaoh’).⁵ Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law, came into the wilderness where Moses was

encamped at the mountain of God, bringing Moses' sons and wife to him. ⁶He sent word to Moses, 'I, your father-in-law Jethro, am coming to you, with your wife and her two sons.' ⁷Moses went out to meet his father-in-law; he bowed down and kissed him; each asked after the other's welfare, and they went into the tent. ⁸Then Moses told his father-in-law all that the LORD had done to Pharaoh and to the Egyptians for Israel's sake, all the hardship that had beset them on the way, and how the LORD had delivered them. ⁹Jethro rejoiced for all the good that the LORD had done to Israel, in delivering them from the Egyptians. [Touching scene to imagine.](#)

10 Jethro said, 'Blessed be the LORD, who has delivered you from the Egyptians and from Pharaoh. ¹¹Now I know that the LORD is greater than all gods, because he delivered the people from the Egyptians, when they dealt arrogantly with them.' ¹²And Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, brought a burnt-offering and sacrifices to God; and Aaron came with all the elders of Israel to eat bread with Moses' father-in-law in the presence of God.

13 The next day Moses sat as judge for the people, while the people stood around him from morning until evening. ¹⁴When Moses' father-in-law saw all that he was doing for the people, he said, 'What is this that you are doing for the people? Why do you sit alone, while all the people stand around you from morning until evening?' ¹⁵Moses said to his father-in-law, 'Because the people come to me to inquire of God. ¹⁶When they have a dispute, they come to me and I decide between one person and another, and I make known to them the statutes and instructions of God.' ¹⁷Moses' father-in-law said to him, 'What you are doing is not good. ¹⁸You will surely wear yourself out, both you and these people with you. For the task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone. ¹⁹Now listen to me. I will give you counsel, and God be with you! You should represent the people before God, and you should bring their cases before God; ²⁰teach them the statutes and instructions and make known to them the way they are to go and the things they are to do. ²¹You should also look for able men among all the people, men who fear God, are trustworthy, and hate dishonest gain; set such men over them as officers over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens. ²²Let them sit as judges for the people at all times; let them bring every important case to you, but decide every minor case themselves. So it will be easier for you, and they will bear the burden with you. ²³If you do this, and God so commands you, then you will be able to endure, and all these people will go to their home in peace.' [Great lesson about delegation \(Makes me think as well of Numbers 11:29, when Moses says "would that all the Lord's people were prophets, in other words, able to discern God's will. That's](#)

the goal).

24 So Moses listened to his father-in-law and did all that he had said.²⁵ Moses chose able men from all Israel and appointed them as heads over the people, as officers over thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens.²⁶ And they judged the people at all times; hard cases they brought to Moses, but any minor case they decided themselves.²⁷ Then Moses let his father-in-law depart, and he went off to his own country.

The Israelites Reach Mount Sinai

19 At the third new moon after the Israelites had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that very day, they came into the wilderness of Sinai.² They had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain.³ Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, ‘Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: ⁴You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself.⁵ Now therefore, **if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples.** Indeed, the whole earth is mine,⁶ but **you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation.** (Explain what this means, heart of the assigned reading) These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.’

7 So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him.⁸ The people all **answered as one:** ‘Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do.’ Moses reported the words of the people to the LORD.⁹ Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘I am going to come to you in a dense cloud, **in order that the people may hear when I speak with you and so trust you ever after.**’

The People Consecrated

When Moses had told the words of the people to the LORD,¹⁰ the LORD said to Moses: ‘Go to the people and **consecrate them** today and tomorrow. Have them wash their clothes¹¹ and prepare for the third day, because on the third day the LORD will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people.¹² You shall **set limits** for the people all around, saying, “Be careful not to go up the mountain or to touch the edge of it. Any who touch the mountain shall be put to death.¹³ No hand shall touch them,

but they shall be stoned or shot with arrows; whether animal or human being, they shall not live.” When the trumpet sounds a long blast, they may go up on the mountain.’ ¹⁴So Moses went down from the mountain to the people. He consecrated the people, and they washed their clothes. ¹⁵And he said to the people, ‘Prepare for the third day; do not go near a woman.’ (again, the theme of holy vs. ordinary. The people needed to be in a priestly state in order to enter the presence of God)

¹⁶On the morning of the third day there was thunder and lightning, as well as a thick cloud on the mountain, and a blast of a trumpet so loud that all the people who were in the camp trembled. ¹⁷Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God. They took their stand at the foot of the mountain. ¹⁸Now Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke, because the LORD had descended upon it in fire; the smoke went up like the smoke of a kiln, while the whole mountain shook violently. ¹⁹As the blast of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses would speak and God would answer him in thunder. ²⁰When the LORD descended upon Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain, the LORD summoned Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up. ²¹Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘Go down and warn the people not to break through to the LORD to look; otherwise many of them will perish. ²²Even the priests who approach the LORD must **consecrate themselves** or the LORD will break out against them.’ ²³Moses said to the LORD, ‘The people are not permitted to come up to Mount Sinai; for you yourself warned us, saying, “**Set limits** around the mountain and **keep it holy.**” ’ ²⁴The LORD said to him, ‘Go down, and come up bringing Aaron with you; but do not let either the priests or the people break through to come up to the LORD; otherwise he will break out against them.’ ²⁵So Moses went down to the people and told them.

The Ten Commandments (Go over the fantastic Oxford Commentary points)

20 Then God spoke all these words:

2 I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

4 You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the

fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

7 You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

8 Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹For six days you shall labour and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. (An important example of sacred time. I always appreciated how we are not only commanded to rest on the Sabbath, but work the other days! In Judaism the Sabbath both looks backwards toward Paradise, forward to the Messianic Era, and celebrates with symbols from the temple. I find that moving) ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

As has often been noted, the first four commandments relate to our relationship with God, the latter six relate to our relationship with each other. The God commandments relate to God's honor, and a major theme is that because God is holy, we are also required to be holy.

12 Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

13 You shall not murder. (the Hebrew refers specifically to murder, not just killing)

14 You shall not commit adultery.

15 You shall not steal.

16 You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. This really does refer to false witness in a court setting, though being honest is important as well.

17 You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour. (And here women are treated as property; contrast this with Deut 5:21)

18 When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet,

and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance,¹⁹ and said to Moses, ‘You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die.’²⁰ Moses said to the people, ‘Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin.’²¹ Then the people stood at a distance, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.

The Law concerning the Altar

22 The LORD said to Moses: Thus you shall say to the Israelites: ‘You have seen for yourselves that I spoke with you from heaven.²³ You shall not make gods of silver alongside me, nor shall you make for yourselves gods of gold.²⁴ You need make for me only an altar of earth and sacrifice on it your burnt-offerings and your offerings of well-being, your sheep and your oxen; in every place where I cause my name to be remembered I will come to you and bless you.²⁵ But if you make for me an altar of stone, do not build it of hewn stones; for if you use a chisel upon it you profane it.²⁶ You shall not go up by steps to my altar, so that your nakedness may not be exposed on it.’

The Golden Calf

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron and said to him, ‘Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.’² Aaron said to them, ‘Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.’³ So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron.⁴ He took the gold from them, formed it in a mould, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’⁵ When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, ‘Tomorrow shall be a festival to the LORD.’⁶ They rose early the next day, and offered burnt-offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.

7 The LORD said to Moses, ‘Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely;⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a

calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, “These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!” ’ ⁹The LORD said to Moses, ‘I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.’

11 But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, ‘O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹²Why should the Egyptians say, “It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth”? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, “I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it for ever.” ’ ¹⁴And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

15 Then Moses turned and went down from the mountain, carrying the two tablets of the covenant in his hands, tablets that were written on both sides, written on the front and on the back. ¹⁶The tablets were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, engraved upon the tablets. ¹⁷When Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, ‘There is a noise of war in the camp.’ ¹⁸But he said, ‘It is not the sound made by victors, or the sound made by losers; it is the sound of revellers that I hear.’

¹⁹As soon as he came near the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, Moses’ anger burned hot, and he threw the tablets from his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain. ²⁰He took the calf that they had made, burned it with fire, ground it to powder, scattered it on the water, and made the Israelites drink it.

21 Moses said to Aaron, ‘What did this people do to you that you have brought so great a sin upon them?’ ²²And Aaron said, ‘Do not let the anger of my lord burn hot; you know the people, that they are bent on evil. ²³They said to me, “Make us gods, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.” ²⁴So I said to them, “Whoever has gold, take it off”; so they gave it to me, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf!’

25 When Moses saw that the people were running wild (for Aaron had let them run wild, to the derision of their enemies), ²⁶then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, ‘Who is on the LORD’s side? Come to me!’ And all the sons of Levi gathered around him. ²⁷He said to them, ‘Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, “Put your sword on your side, each of you! Go back and forth from gate to gate throughout the camp, and each of you kill your brother, your friend, and your neighbour.”’ ²⁸The sons of Levi did as Moses commanded, and about three thousand of the people fell on that day. ²⁹Moses said, ‘Today you have ordained yourselves for the service of the LORD, each one at the cost of a son or a brother, and so have brought a blessing on yourselves this day.’

30 On the next day Moses said to the people, ‘You have sinned a great sin. But now I will go up to the LORD; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin.’ ³¹So Moses returned to the LORD and said, ‘Alas, this people has sinned a great sin; they have made for themselves gods of gold. ³²But now, if you will only forgive their sin—but if not, blot me out of the book that you have written.’ ³³But the LORD said to Moses, ‘Whoever has sinned against me I will blot out of my book. ³⁴But now go, lead the people to the place about which I have spoken to you; see, my angel shall go in front of you. Nevertheless, when the day comes for punishment, I will punish them for their sin.’

35 Then the LORD sent a plague on the people, because they made the calf—the one that Aaron made.

The Command to Leave Sinai

The LORD said to Moses, ‘Go, leave this place, you and the people whom you have brought up out of the land of Egypt, and go to the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, “To your descendants I will give it.”’ ²I will send an angel before you, and I will drive out the Canaanites, the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ³Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey; but I will not go up among you, or I would consume you on the way, for you are a stiff-necked people.’

4 When the people heard these harsh words, they mourned, and no one put on ornaments. ⁵For the LORD had said to Moses, ‘Say to the Israelites, “You are a stiff-necked people; if for a single moment I should go up among you, I would consume you. So now take off your ornaments, and I will decide what to do to

you.”’⁶Therefore the Israelites stripped themselves of their ornaments, from Mount Horeb onwards.

The Tent outside the Camp

7 Now Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, far off from the camp; he called it the tent of meeting. And everyone who sought the LORD would go out to the tent of meeting, which was outside the camp.⁸Whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people would rise and stand, each of them, at the entrance of their tents and watch Moses until he had gone into the tent.⁹When Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent, and the LORD would speak with Moses.¹⁰When all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would rise and bow down, all of them, at the entrance of their tents.¹¹Thus the LORD used to speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend. Then he would return to the camp; but his young assistant, Joshua son of Nun, would not leave the tent.

Moses' Intercession

12 Moses said to the LORD, ‘See, you have said to me, “Bring up this people”; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, “I know you by name, and you have also found favour in my sight.”¹³Now if I have found favour in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favour in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.’¹⁴He said, ‘My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.’¹⁵And he said to him, ‘If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here.¹⁶For how shall it be known that I have found favour in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.’

17 The LORD said to Moses, ‘I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favour in my sight, and I know you by name.’¹⁸Moses said, ‘Show me your glory, I pray.’¹⁹And he said, ‘I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, “The LORD”; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.²⁰But’, he said, ‘you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live.’²¹And the LORD continued, ‘See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock;²²and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until

I have passed by; ²³then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.'

Moses Makes New Tablets

34The LORD said to Moses, 'Cut two tablets of stone like the former ones, and I will write on the tablets the words that were on the former tablets, which you broke. ²Be ready in the morning, and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai and present yourself there to me, on the top of the mountain. ³No one shall come up with you, and do not let anyone be seen throughout all the mountain; and do not let flocks or herds graze in front of that mountain.' ⁴So Moses cut two tablets of stone like the former ones; and he rose early in the morning and went up on Mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him, and took in his hand the two tablets of stone. ⁵The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name, 'The LORD.' ⁶The LORD passed before him, and proclaimed, 'The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, ⁷ keeping steadfast love for the thousandth generation, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, yet by no means clearing the guilty, but visiting the iniquity of the parents upon the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation.'⁸And Moses quickly bowed his head towards the earth, and worshipped.⁹He said, 'If now I have found favour in your sight, O Lord, I pray, let the Lord go with us. Although this is a stiff-necked people, pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for your inheritance.'

The Covenant Renewed

10 He said: I hereby make a covenant. Before all your people I will perform marvels, such as have not been performed in all the earth or in any nation; and all the people among whom you live shall see the work of the LORD; for it is an awesome thing that

I will do with you.

11 Observe what I command you today. See, I will drive out before you the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ¹²Take care not to make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land to which you are going, or it will become a snare among you. ¹³You shall tear down their altars, break their pillars, and cut down their sacred poles ¹⁴(for you shall worship no other god, because the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God). ¹⁵You shall not make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, for when they prostitute themselves to their gods and sacrifice to their gods, someone among them will invite you, and you will eat of the sacrifice. ¹⁶And you will take wives from among their daughters for your sons, and their daughters who prostitute themselves to their gods will make your sons also prostitute themselves to their gods.

17 You shall not make cast idols.

18 You shall keep the festival of unleavened bread. For seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, as I commanded you, at the time appointed in the month of Abib; for in the month of Abib you came out from Egypt.

19 All that first opens the womb is mine, all your male livestock, the firstborn of cow and sheep. ²⁰The firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. All the firstborn of your sons you shall redeem.

No one shall appear before me empty-handed.

21 For six days you shall work, but on the seventh day you shall rest; even in ploughing time and in harvest time you shall rest. ²²You shall observe the festival of weeks, the first fruits of wheat harvest, and the festival of ingathering at the turn of the year. ²³Three times in the year all your males shall appear before the LORD God, the God of Israel. ²⁴For I will cast out nations before you, and enlarge your borders; no one shall covet your land when you go up to appear before the LORD your God three times in the year.

25 You shall not offer the blood of my sacrifice with leaven, and the sacrifice of the festival of the passover shall not be left until the morning.

26 The best of the first fruits of your ground you shall bring to the house of

the LORD your God.

You shall not boil a kid in its mother's milk.

27 The LORD said to Moses: Write these words; in accordance with these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel. ²⁸He was there with the LORD for forty days and forty nights; he neither ate bread nor drank water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the ten commandments.

The Shining Face of Moses

29 Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³²Afterwards all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; ³⁴but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

[JST Deut. 10:2;](#)

2 And I will write on the tables the words that were in the first tables which thou brakest, and thou shalt put them in the ark.

JST: ... which thou brakest, *save the words of the everlasting covenant of the holy priesthood*, and thou shalt ...

[John 6:35, 48-51;](#)

35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

48 I am that bread of life.

49 Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead.

50 This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die.

51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live forever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

[Galatians 3:23-24;](#)

23 But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed.

24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster *to bring us* unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

[Mosiah 13:29-30;](#)

29 And now I say unto you that it was expedient that there should be a law given to the children of Israel, yea, even a very strict law; for they were a stiffnecked people, quick to do iniquity, and slow to remember the Lord their God;

30 Therefore there was a law given them, yea, a law of performances and of ordinances, a law which they were to observe strictly from day to day, to keep them in remembrance of God and their duty towards him.

[Alma 25:15-16;](#)

15 Yea, and they did keep the law of Moses; for it was expedient that they should keep the law of Moses as yet, for it was not all fulfilled. But notwithstanding the law of Moses, they did look forward to the coming of Christ, considering that the law of Moses was a type of his coming, and believing that they must keep those outward performances until the time that he should be revealed unto them.

16 Now they did not suppose that salvation came by the law of Moses; but the law of Moses did serve to strengthen their faith in Christ; and thus they did retain a hope through faith, unto eternal salvation, relying upon the spirit of prophecy, which spake of those things to come.

[Alma 34:14-15;](#)

14 And behold, this is the whole meaning of the law, every whit pointing to that great

and last sacrifice; and that great and last sacrifice will be the Son of God, yea, infinite and eternal.

15 And thus he shall bring salvation to all those who shall believe on his name; this being the intent of this last sacrifice, to bring about the bowels of mercy, which overpowereth justice, and bringeth about means unto men that they may have faith unto repentance.

3 Nephi 15:4-10;

4 Behold, I say unto you that the law is fulfilled that was given unto Moses.

5 Behold, I am he that gave the law, and I am he who covenanted with my people Israel; therefore, the law in me is fulfilled, for I have come to fulfil the law; therefore it hath an end.

6 Behold, I do not destroy the prophets, for as many as have not been fulfilled in me, verily I say unto you, shall all be fulfilled.

7 And because I said unto you that old things have passed away, I do not destroy that which hath been spoken concerning things which are to come.

8 For behold, the covenant which I have made with my people is not all fulfilled; but the law which was given unto Moses hath an end in me.

9 Behold, I am the law, and the light. Look unto me, and endure to the end, and ye shall live; for unto him that endureth to the end will I give eternal life.

10 Behold, I have given unto you the commandments; therefore keep my commandments. And this is the law and the prophets, for they truly testified of me.

D&C 84:19-27

19 And this greater priesthood administereth the gospel and holdeth the key of the mysteries of the kingdom, even the key of the knowledge of God.

20 Therefore, in the ordinances thereof, the power of godliness is manifest.

21 And without the ordinances thereof, and the authority of the priesthood, the power of godliness is not manifest unto men in the flesh;

22 For without this no man can see the face of God, even the Father, and live.

23 Now this Moses plainly taught to the children of Israel in the wilderness, and sought diligently to sanctify his people that they might behold the face of God;

24 But they hardened their hearts and could not endure his presence; therefore, the Lord in his wrath, for his anger was kindled against them, swore that they should not enter into his rest while in the wilderness, which rest is the fulness of his glory.

25 Therefore, he took Moses out of their midst, and the Holy Priesthood also;

26 And the lesser priesthood continued, which priesthood holdeth the key of the ministering of angels and the preparatory gospel;

27 Which gospel is the gospel of repentance and of baptism, and the remission of sins, and the law of carnal commandments, which the Lord in his wrath caused to continue with the house of Aaron among the children of Israel until John, whom God raised up, being filled with the Holy Ghost from his mother's womb.

Additional Reading: [Psalm 78](#); [1 Corinthians 10:1-11](#)

[Psalm 78](#);

¹ Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

² I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will utter dark sayings from of old,

³ things that we have heard and known,
that our ancestors have told us.

⁴ We will not hide them from their children;
we will tell to the coming generation
the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might,
and the wonders that he has done.

⁵ He established a decree in Jacob,
and appointed a law in Israel,
which he commanded our ancestors
to teach to their children;

⁶ that the next generation might know them,
the children yet unborn,
and rise up and tell them to their children,

⁷ so that they should set their hope in God,
and not forget the works of God,
but keep his commandments;

⁸ and that they should not be like their ancestors,
a stubborn and rebellious generation,
a generation whose heart was not steadfast,
whose spirit was not faithful to God.

- ⁹ The Ephraimites, armed with the bow,
turned back on the day of battle.
- ¹⁰ They did not keep God's covenant,
but refused to walk according to his law.
- ¹¹ They forgot what he had done,
and the miracles that he had shown them.
- ¹² In the sight of their ancestors he worked marvels
in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan.
- ¹³ He divided the sea and let them pass through it,
and made the waters stand like a heap.
- ¹⁴ In the daytime he led them with a cloud,
and all night long with a fiery light.
- ¹⁵ He split rocks open in the wilderness,
and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.
- ¹⁶ He made streams come out of the rock,
and caused waters to flow down like rivers.
- ¹⁷ Yet they sinned still more against him,
rebellling against the Most High in the desert.
- ¹⁸ They tested God in their heart
by demanding the food they craved.
- ¹⁹ They spoke against God, saying,
'Can God spread a table in the wilderness?
- ²⁰ Even though he struck the rock so that water gushed out
and torrents overflowed,
can he also give bread,
or provide meat for his people?'
- ²¹ Therefore, when the LORD heard, he was full of rage;
a fire was kindled against Jacob,
his anger mounted against Israel,
- ²² because they had no faith in God,
and did not trust his saving power.
- ²³ Yet he commanded the skies above,

and opened the doors of heaven;
24 he rained down on them manna to eat,
and gave them the grain of heaven.
25 Mortals ate of the bread of angels;
he sent them food in abundance.
26 He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens,
and by his power he led out the south wind;
27 he rained flesh upon them like dust,
winged birds like the sand of the seas;
28 he let them fall within their camp,
all around their dwellings.
29 And they ate and were well filled,
for he gave them what they craved.
30 But before they had satisfied their craving,
while the food was still in their mouths,
31 the anger of God rose against them
and he killed the strongest of them,
and laid low the flower of Israel.

32 In spite of all this they still sinned;
they did not believe in his wonders.
33 So he made their days vanish like a breath,
and their years in terror.
34 When he killed them, they sought for him;
they repented and sought God earnestly.
35 They remembered that God was their rock,
the Most High God their redeemer.
36 But they flattered him with their mouths;
they lied to him with their tongues.
37 Their heart was not steadfast towards him;
they were not true to his covenant.
38 Yet he, being compassionate,
forgave their iniquity,
and did not destroy them;
often he restrained his anger,
and did not stir up all his wrath.

39 He remembered that they were but flesh,
a wind that passes and does not come again.

40 How often they rebelled against him in the wilderness
and grieved him in the desert!

41 They tested God again and again,
and provoked the Holy One of Israel.

42 They did not keep in mind his power,
or the day when he redeemed them from the foe;

43 when he displayed his signs in Egypt,
and his miracles in the fields of Zoan.

44 He turned their rivers to blood,
so that they could not drink of their streams.

45 He sent among them swarms of flies, which devoured them,
and frogs, which destroyed them.

46 He gave their crops to the caterpillar,
and the fruit of their labour to the locust.

47 He destroyed their vines with hail,
and their sycomores with frost.

48 He gave over their cattle to the hail,
and their flocks to thunderbolts.

49 He let loose on them his fierce anger,
wrath, indignation, and distress,
a company of destroying angels.

50 He made a path for his anger;
he did not spare them from death,
but gave their lives over to the plague.

51 He struck all the firstborn in Egypt,
the first issue of their strength in the tents of Ham.

52 Then he led out his people like sheep,
and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.

53 He led them in safety, so that they were not afraid;
but the sea overwhelmed their enemies.

54 And he brought them to his holy hill,
to the mountain that his right hand had won.

55 He drove out nations before them;
he apportioned them for a possession

and settled the tribes of Israel in their tents.

- ⁵⁶ Yet they tested the Most High God,
and rebelled against him.
They did not observe his decrees,
⁵⁷ but turned away and were faithless like their ancestors;
they twisted like a treacherous bow.
⁵⁸ For they provoked him to anger with their high places;
they moved him to jealousy with their idols.
⁵⁹ When God heard, he was full of wrath,
and he utterly rejected Israel.
⁶⁰ He abandoned his dwelling at Shiloh,
the tent where he dwelt among mortals,
⁶¹ and delivered his power to captivity,
his glory to the hand of the foe.
⁶² He gave his people to the sword,
and vented his wrath on his heritage.
⁶³ Fire devoured their young men,
and their girls had no marriage song.
⁶⁴ Their priests fell by the sword,
and their widows made no lamentation.
⁶⁵ Then the Lord awoke as from sleep,
like a warrior shouting because of wine.
⁶⁶ He put his adversaries to rout;
he put them to everlasting disgrace.
- ⁶⁷ He rejected the tent of Joseph,
he did not choose the tribe of Ephraim;
⁶⁸ but he chose the tribe of Judah,
Mount Zion, which he loves.
⁶⁹ He built his sanctuary like the high heavens,
like the earth, which he has founded for ever.
⁷⁰ He chose his servant David,
and took him from the sheepfolds;
⁷¹ from tending the nursing ewes he brought him

to be the shepherd of his people Jacob,
of Israel, his inheritance.

⁷² With upright heart he tended them,
and guided them with skilful hand.

1 Corinthians 10:1-11

1 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;

2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

3 And did all eat the same spiritual meat;

4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

5 But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

6 Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.

7 Neither be ye idolaters, as *were* some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.

8 Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand.

9 Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents.

10 Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.

11 Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

Or the NRSV:

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

6 Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they

did. ⁷Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, ‘The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.’ ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come.

Other Reading: Look through Leviticus and Numbers. No, not kidding. Also compare the 10 commandments in Ex. 20 and Deut. 5