
Inauguration of the Levitical Priesthood



**The people of Israel
arrive to Mount Sinai,
Moses goes up the
mountain to meet with
YHWH**

Exodus 19:1-4

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

In the third month after the sons of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that very day they came into the wilderness of Sinai. When they set out from Rephidim, they came to the wilderness of Sinai and camped in the wilderness; and there **Israel camped in front of the mountain. 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 sons of Israel:
(Continued...)"

THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL ARRIVE TO MOUNT SINAI, MOSES GOES
UP THE MOUNTAIN TO MEET WITH YHVH

You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians,
and how I bore you on eagles' wings, and brought you to
Myself.

**YHWH tells Moses the
basic terms of the
covenant while on the
mountain**

Exodus 19:5-6

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Now then, **if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples**, for all the earth is Mine; **and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.** ' These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel."

Exodus 19:7-8

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

So Moses came and called the elders of the people, and set before them all these words which the LORD had commanded him. All the people answered together and said, "**All that the LORD has spoken we will do!**" And Moses brought back the words of the people to the LORD.

**YHWH gives further
instructions to Moses,
Moses returns to the
camp to tell the people**

**Israel prepares to
meet YHWH, Moses
returns up the
mountain**

Exodus 19:16-20

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

So it came about on the third day, when it was morning, that there were thunder and lightning flashes and a thick cloud upon the mountain and a very loud trumpet sound, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled.

And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. Now Mount Sinai was all in smoke because the LORD descended upon it in fire; (Continued...)

and its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked violently. When the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke and God answered him with thunder. The LORD came down on Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain; and the LORD called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.

**This is Moses' third
trip up the mountain.
People of Israel remain
at the foot of the
mountain.**

This is Moses' third trip up the mountain. People of Israel remain at the foot of the mountain.

Exodus 19:21-25

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, "Go down, warn the people, so that they do not break through to the LORD to gaze, and many of them perish. "Also let the priests who come near to the LORD consecrate themselves, or else the LORD will break out against them." Moses said to the LORD, "The people cannot come up to Mount Sinai, for You warned us, saying, 'Set bounds about the mountain and consecrate it.'" Then the LORD said to him, "Go down and come up again, you and Aaron with you; (Continued...)"

This is Moses' third trip up the mountain. People of Israel remain at the foot of the mountain.

but do not let the priests and the people break through to come up to the LORD, or He will break forth upon them." So Moses went down to the people and told them.

This is Moses' third trip up the mountain. People of Israel remain at the foot of the mountain.

Exodus 19:9-15

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

The LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I will come to you in a thick cloud, so that the people may hear when I speak with you and may also believe in you forever." Then Moses told the words of the people to the LORD. **The LORD also said to Moses**, "Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their garments; and let them be ready for the third day, for on the third day the LORD will come down on Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. (Continued...)"

This is Moses' third trip up the mountain. People of Israel remain at the foot of the mountain.

"You shall set bounds for the people all around, saying, 'Beware that you do not go up on the mountain or touch the border of it; whoever touches the mountain shall surely be put to death. No hand shall touch him, but he shall surely be stoned or shot through; whether beast or man, he shall not live.' When the ram's horn sounds a long blast, they shall come up to the mountain.

(Continued...)

This is Moses' third trip up the mountain. People of Israel remain at the foot of the mountain.

" **So Moses went down from the mountain to the people and consecrated the people, and they washed their garments.** He said to the people, "Be ready for the third day; do not go near a woman."

**The people hear
directly from YHVVH**

Deuteronomy 4:32-40

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

"Indeed, ask now concerning the former days which were before you, since the day that God created man on the earth, and inquire from one end of the heavens to the other. Has anything been done like this great thing, or has anything been heard like it? **"Has any people heard the voice of God speaking from the midst of the fire, as you have heard it,** and survived? (Continued...)

"Or has a god tried to go to take for himself a nation from within another nation by trials, by signs and wonders and by war and by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm and by great terrors, as the LORD your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes? "To you it was shown that you might know that the LORD, He is God; there is no other besides Him. "Out of the heavens He let you hear His voice to discipline you; (Continued...)

and on earth He let you see His great fire, **and you heard His words from the midst of the fire.** "Because He loved your fathers, therefore He chose their descendants after them. And He personally brought you from Egypt by His great power, driving out from before you nations greater and mightier than you, to bring you in and to give you their land for an inheritance, as it is today. (Continued...)

"Know therefore today, and take it to your heart, that the LORD, He is God in heaven above and on the earth below; there is no other. "So you shall keep His statutes and His commandments which I am giving you today, that it may go well with you and with your children after you, and that you may live long on the land which the LORD your God is giving you for all time."

Deuteronomy 5:6-29

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

I am the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no other gods before Me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. You shall not worship them or serve them;
(Continued...)

for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, and on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain. Observe the sabbath day to keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. (Continued...)

Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath of the LORD your God; in it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter or your male servant or your female servant or your ox or your donkey or any of your cattle or your sojourner who stays with you, so that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you. (Continued...)

You shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out of there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to observe the sabbath day. Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, that your days may be prolonged and that it may go well with you on the land which the LORD your God gives you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. (Continued...)

You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, and you shall not desire your neighbor's house, his field or his male servant or his female servant, his ox or his donkey or anything that belongs to your neighbor.' "These words the LORD spoke to all your assembly at the mountain from the midst of the fire, of the cloud and of the thick gloom, with a great voice, and He added no more. (Continued...)

He wrote them on two tablets of stone and gave them to me. "And when you heard the voice from the midst of the darkness, while the mountain was burning with fire, you came near to me, all the heads of your tribes and your elders. "You said, 'Behold, the LORD our God has shown us His glory and His greatness, and we have heard His voice from the midst of the fire; we have seen today that God speaks with man, yet he lives. Now then why should we die? (Continued...)

For this great fire will consume us; if we hear the voice of the LORD our God any longer, then we will die. For who is there of all flesh who has heard the voice of the living God speaking from the midst of the fire, as we have, and lived? Go near and hear all that the LORD our God says; then speak to us all that the LORD our God speaks to you, and we will hear and do it. (Continued...)

' "The LORD heard the voice of your words when you spoke to me, and the LORD said to me, 'I have heard the voice of the words of this people which they have spoken to you. They have done well in all that they have spoken. Oh that they had such a heart in them, that they would fear Me and keep all My commandments always, that it may be well with them and with their sons forever!

Exodus 20:1-17

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Then God spoke all these words, saying, "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. "You shall have no other gods before Me. "You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. "You shall not worship them or serve them; (Continued...)

for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments. "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain. "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

(Continued...)

"Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath of the LORD your God; in it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter, your male or your female servant or your cattle or your sojourner who stays with you. "For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and made it holy.

(Continued...)

"Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the LORD your God gives you. "You shall not murder. "You shall not commit adultery. "You shall not steal. "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife or his male servant or his female servant or his ox or his donkey or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

Exodus 20:18-21

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

All the people perceived the thunder and the lightning flashes and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw it, they trembled and stood at a distance. Then they said to Moses, **"Speak to us yourself and we will listen; but let not God speak to us, or we will die."** Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come in order to test you, and in order that the fear of Him may remain with you, so that you may not sin. (Continued...)"

" So the people stood at a distance, while Moses approached the thick cloud where God was.

**Moses receives further
commandments while
on the mountain and
writes them in "the
Book of the Covenant"**

Exodus 20:22-26

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'You yourselves have seen that I have spoken to you from heaven. You shall not make other gods besides Me; gods of silver or gods of gold, you shall not make for yourselves. You shall make an altar of earth for Me, and you shall sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen; in every place where I cause My name to be remembered, I will come to you and bless you.

(Continued...)

MOSES RECEIVES FURTHER COMMANDMENTS WHILE ON THE
MOUNTAIN AND WRITES THEM IN "THE BOOK OF THE COVENANT"

If you make an altar of stone for Me, you shall not build it of cut stones, for if you wield your tool on it, you will profane it. And you shall not go up by steps to My altar, so that your nakedness will not be exposed on it.'

**Moses receives the
"ordinances" and
writes them in the
"Book of the
Covenant"**

MOSES RECEIVES THE "ORDINANCES" AND WRITES THEM IN THE
"BOOK OF THE COVENANT"

Exodus 21:1

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

"Now these are **the ordinances** which you are to set
before them:

**Moses returns to
camp, presents the
"Book of the
Covenant", and the
people of Israel accept
the terms**

Exodus 24:3-8

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Then Moses came and recounted to the people all the words of the LORD and all the ordinances; and all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words which the LORD has spoken we will do!" **Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD.** Then he arose early in the morning, and built an altar at the foot of the mountain with twelve pillars for the twelve tribes of Israel. (Continued...)

MOSES RETURNS TO CAMP, PRESENTS THE "BOOK OF THE COVENANT", AND THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL ACCEPT THE TERMS

He sent young men of the sons of Israel, and they offered burnt offerings and sacrificed young bulls as peace offerings to the LORD. Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and the other half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar. **Then he took the book of the covenant and read it** in the hearing of the people; and they said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient! (Continued...)"

MOSES RETURNS TO CAMP, PRESENTS THE "BOOK OF THE COVENANT", AND THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL ACCEPT THE TERMS

" So Moses took the blood and sprinkled it on the people, and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

**Moses then goes back
up the mountain to
receive the stone
tablets, the law, and
the commandments**

Exodus 24:12-18

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Now the LORD said to Moses, "**Come up to Me on the mountain and remain there, and I will give you the stone tablets with the law and the commandment which I have written for their instruction.**" So Moses arose with Joshua his servant, and Moses went up to the mountain of God. But to the elders he said, "Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a legal matter, let him approach them.
(Continued...)

MOSES THEN GOES BACK UP THE MOUNTAIN TO RECEIVE THE
STONE TABLETS, THE LAW, AND THE COMMANDMENTS

" **Then Moses went up to the mountain**, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the LORD rested on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; and on the seventh day He called to Moses from the midst of the cloud. And to the eyes of the sons of Israel the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a consuming fire on the mountain top. Moses entered the midst of the cloud as he went up to the mountain; and Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

Moses receives instructions on how to build the Tent of Meeting

Exodus 25:1-9

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "Tell the sons of Israel to raise a contribution for Me; from every man whose heart moves him you shall raise My contribution.

"This is the contribution which you are to raise from them: (Continued...)

MOSES RECEIVES INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO BUILD THE TENT OF MEETING

gold, silver and bronze, blue, purple and scarlet material, fine linen, goat hair, rams' skins dyed red, porpoise skins, acacia wood, oil for lighting, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense, onyx stones and setting stones for the ephod and for the breastpiece. "Let them construct a sanctuary for Me, that I may dwell among them. (Continued...)

MOSES RECEIVES INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO BUILD THE TENT OF MEETING

"According to all that I am going to show you, as the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furniture, just so you shall construct it.

**Moses receives
instructions for how
priests should perform
their duties**

Exodus 28:1-5

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

"Then bring near to yourself Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the sons of Israel, to minister as priest to Me--Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's sons. "You shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty. "You shall speak to all the skillful persons whom I have endowed with the spirit of wisdom, that they make Aaron's garments to consecrate him, **that he may minister as priest to Me.** (Continued...)

MOSES RECEIVES INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOW PRIESTS SHOULD PERFORM THEIR DUTIES

"These are the garments which they shall make: a breastpiece and an ephod and a robe and a tunic of checkered work, a turban and a sash, and they shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother and his sons, **that he may minister as priest to Me**. "They shall take the gold and the blue and the purple and the scarlet material and the fine linen.

**YHWH concludes
instructing Moses,
gives him the tablets
of the testimony**

Exodus 31:18

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

When He had finished speaking with him upon Mount Sinai, **He gave Moses the two tablets of the testimony,** tablets of stone, written by the finger of God.

Exodus 31:18

(TRG, Targums)

And He gave to Moses, when He had finished speaking with him in Mount Sinai, the two tablets of the testimony, **tablets of sapphire-stone from the throne of glory**, weighing forty sein, written by the finger of God.

**Moses comes down
from the mountain,
golden calf incident,
tablets smashed**

Exodus 32:7-10

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, "Go down at once, for your people, whom you brought up from the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves. **"They have quickly turned aside from the way which I commanded them.**

They have made for themselves a molten calf, and have worshiped it and have sacrificed to it and said, 'This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt!'" The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and behold, they are an obstinate people.

(Continued...)

MOSES COMES DOWN FROM THE MOUNTAIN, GOLDEN CALF
INCIDENT, TABLETS SMASHED

"Now then let Me alone, that My anger may burn against
them and that I may destroy them; and I will make of
you a great nation."

Exodus 32:19-20

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

It came about, as soon as Moses came near the camp, that he saw the calf and the dancing; and Moses' anger burned, **and he threw the tablets from his hands and shattered them at the foot of the mountain.** He took the calf which they had made and burned it with fire, and ground it to powder, and scattered it over the surface of the water and made the sons of Israel drink it.

**Moses returns up the
mountain to plead
with YHWH**

Exodus 32:30-31

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

On the next day Moses said to the people, "You yourselves have committed a great sin; and now I am going up to the LORD, perhaps I can make atonement for your sin." **Then Moses returned to the LORD, and said,** "Alas, this people has committed a great sin, and they have made a god of gold for themselves."

**YHVVH decides He will
not travel in the midst
of Israel on the way to
the promised land due
to their behavior**

YHWH DECIDES HE WILL NOT TRAVEL IN THE MIDST OF ISRAEL ON
THE WAY TO THE PROMISED LAND DUE TO THEIR BEHAVIOR

Exodus 33:1-3

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, "Depart, go up from here, you and the people whom you have brought up from the land of Egypt, to the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'To your descendants I will give it.' "I will send an angel before you and I will drive out the Canaanite, the Amorite, the Hittite, the Perizzite, the Hivite and the Jebusite. "Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey; (Continued...)

YHVH DECIDES HE WILL NOT TRAVEL IN THE MIDST OF ISRAEL ON
THE WAY TO THE PROMISED LAND DUE TO THEIR BEHAVIOR

for I will not go up in your midst, because you are an
obstinate people, and I might destroy you on the way."

**Moses returns down
the mountain and
breaks the news to
Israel**

Exodus 33:4-6

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

When the people heard this sad word, they went into mourning, and none of them put on his ornaments. For the LORD had said to Moses, "Say to the sons of Israel, 'You are an obstinate people; should I go up in your midst for one moment, I would destroy you. Now therefore, put off your ornaments from you, that I may know what I shall do with you.'" So the sons of Israel stripped themselves of their ornaments, from Mount Horeb onward.

The "Tent of Meeting" is constructed

Exodus 33:7-11

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Now Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, a good distance from the camp, and 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. And it came about, whenever Moses went out to the tent, that all the people would arise and stand, each at the entrance of his tent, and gaze after Moses until he entered the tent. (Continued...)

Whenever 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. When all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would arise and worship, each at the entrance of his tent. **Thus the LORD used to speak to Moses face to face**, just as a man speaks to his friend. (Continued...)

When Moses returned to the camp, his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, would not depart from the tent.

**YHVVH instructs Moses
to return up the
mountain with new
tablets**

Exodus 34:1-4

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Now the LORD said to Moses, "Cut out for yourself two stone tablets like the former ones, and I will write on the tablets the words that were on the former tablets which you shattered. "So be ready by morning, and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai, and present yourself there to Me on the top of the mountain. "No man is to come up with you, nor let any man be seen anywhere on the mountain; even the flocks and the herds may not graze in front of that mountain. (Continued...)

" So he cut out two stone tablets like the former ones,
**and Moses rose up early in the morning and went up to
Mount Sinai**, as the LORD had commanded him, and he
took two stone tablets in his hand.

YHWH forgives Israel for the Golden Calf Incident

Exodus 34:27

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write down these words, for in accordance with these words **I have made a covenant with you and with Israel.**"

Exodus 34:5-10

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

The LORD descended in the cloud and stood there with him as he called upon the name of the LORD. Then the LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth; who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, **who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin;** (Continued...)

yet He will by no means leave the guilty unpunished, visiting the iniquity of fathers on the children and on the grandchildren to the third and fourth generations."

Moses made haste to bow low toward the earth and worship. He said, "If now I have found favor in Your sight, O Lord, I pray, let the Lord go along in our midst, even though the people are so obstinate, and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us as Your own possession. (Continued...)"

" Then God said, "**Behold, I am going to make a covenant.** Before all your people I will perform miracles which have not been produced in all the earth nor among any of the nations; and all the people among whom you live will see the working of the LORD, for it is a fearful thing that I am going to perform **with you.**"

Moses returns from the mountain

Exodus 34:28-32

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

So he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he did not eat bread or drink water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments. It came about **when Moses was coming down from Mount Sinai (and the two tablets of the testimony were in Moses' hand as he was coming down from the mountain)**, that Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because of his speaking with Him. (Continued...)

So when Aaron and all the sons of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come near him. Then Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the rulers in the congregation returned to him; and Moses spoke to them. Afterward all the sons of Israel came near, **and he commanded them to do everything that the LORD had spoken to him on Mount Sinai.**

**Moses retells the
instructions from
YHWH, requests
materials to build the
tabernacle**

Exodus 35:4

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Moses spoke to all the congregation of the sons of Israel, saying, "**This is the thing which the LORD has commanded**, saying,

**The people of Israel
bring the materials for
the tabernacle**

Exodus 36:2-7

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Then Moses called Bezalel and Oholiab and every skillful person in whom the LORD had put skill, everyone whose heart stirred him, to come to the work to perform it. They received from Moses all the contributions which the sons of Israel had brought to perform the work in the construction of the sanctuary. And they still continued bringing to him freewill offerings every morning.

(Continued...)

And all the skillful men who were performing all the work of the sanctuary came, each from the work which he was performing, and they said to Moses, "The people are bringing much more than enough for the construction work which the LORD commanded us to perform." So Moses issued a command, and a proclamation was circulated throughout the camp, saying, "Let no man or woman any longer perform work for the contributions of the sanctuary. (Continued...)"

THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL BRING THE MATERIALS FOR THE TABERNACLE

" Thus the people were restrained from bringing any more. For the material they had was sufficient and more than enough for all the work, to perform it.

**Construction on the
tabernacle is complete**

Exodus 39:32-43

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Thus all the work of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting was completed; and the sons of Israel did according to all that the LORD had commanded Moses; so they did. They brought the tabernacle to Moses, the tent and all its furnishings: its clasps, its boards, its bars, and its pillars and its sockets; and the covering of rams' skins dyed red, and the covering of porpoise skins, and the screening veil; the ark of the testimony and its poles and the mercy seat; (Continued...)

the table, all its utensils, and the bread of the Presence; the pure gold lampstand, with its arrangement of lamps and all its utensils, and the oil for the light; and the gold altar, and the anointing oil and the fragrant incense, and the veil for the doorway of the tent; the bronze altar and its bronze grating, its poles and all its utensils, the laver and its stand; (Continued...)

the hangings for the court, its pillars and its sockets, and the screen for the gate of the court, its cords and its pegs and all the equipment for the service of the tabernacle, for the tent of meeting; the woven garments for ministering in the holy place and the holy garments for Aaron the priest and the garments of his sons, to minister as priests. So the sons of Israel did all the work according to all that the LORD had commanded Moses.

(Continued...)

And Moses examined all the work and behold, they had done it; just as the LORD had commanded, this they had done. So Moses blessed them.

The Levitical Priesthood is inaugurated

Exodus 40:1-16

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "On the first day of the first month you shall set up the tabernacle of the tent of meeting. "You shall place the ark of the testimony there, and you shall screen the ark with the veil. "You shall bring in the table and arrange what belongs on it; and you shall bring in the lampstand and mount its lamps. (Continued...)

"Moreover, you shall set the gold altar of incense before the ark of the testimony, and set up the veil for the doorway to the tabernacle. "You shall set the altar of burnt offering in front of the doorway of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting. "You shall set the laver between the tent of meeting and the altar and put water in it. "You shall set up the court all around and hang up the veil for the gateway of the court. (Continued...)

"Then you shall take the anointing oil and anoint the tabernacle and all that is in it, and shall consecrate it and all its furnishings; and it shall be holy. "You shall anoint the altar of burnt offering and all its utensils, and consecrate the altar, and the altar shall be most holy. "You shall anoint the laver and its stand, and consecrate it. "Then you shall bring Aaron and his sons to the doorway of the tent of meeting and wash them with water. (Continued...)

"You shall put the holy garments on Aaron and anoint him and consecrate him, that he may minister as a priest to Me. "You shall bring his sons and put tunics on them; and you shall anoint them even as you have anointed their father, that they may minister as priests to Me; and their anointing will qualify them for a perpetual priesthood throughout their generations." Thus Moses did; according to all that the LORD had commanded him, so he did.

**YHWH continues to
give commands to
Moses from the tent of
meeting through the
Book of Leviticus**

Leviticus 1:1

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Then **the LORD called to Moses** and spoke to him from
the tent of meeting, saying,

Leviticus 26:46

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

These are the statutes and ordinances and laws which
the LORD established between Himself and the sons of
Israel through Moses **at Mount Sinai**.

Leviticus 27:34

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

These are the commandments which the LORD
commanded Moses for the sons of Israel **at Mount
Sinai.**

**YHWH continues to
give commands to
Moses from the tent of
meeting throughout
the Book of Numbers**

Numbers 1:1-3

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Then the LORD spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, **in the tent of meeting**, on the first of the second month, in the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying, "Take a census of all the congregation of the sons of Israel, by their families, by their fathers' households, according to the number of names, every male, head by head from twenty years old and upward, whoever is able to go out to war in Israel, you and Aaron shall number them by their arm

(Continued...)

YHVH CONTINUES TO GIVE COMMANDS TO MOSES FROM THE
TENT OF MEETING THROUGHOUT THE BOOK OF NUMBERS

ies.

Numbers 10:11-17

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Now in the second year, in the second month, on the twentieth of the month, the cloud was lifted from over the tabernacle of the testimony; and the sons of Israel set out on their journeys from the wilderness of Sinai. Then the cloud settled down in the wilderness of Paran. So they moved out for the first time **according to the commandment of the LORD through Moses.**

(Continued...)

The standard of the camp of the sons of Judah, according to their armies, set out first, with Nahshon the son of Amminadab, over its army, and Nethanel the son of Zuar, over the tribal army of the sons of Issachar; and Eliab the son of Helon over the tribal army of the sons of Zebulun. Then the tabernacle was taken down; and the sons of Gershon and the sons of Merari, who were carrying the tabernacle, set out.

The Books of the Law

"The Law" outside the Pentateuch

Ecclesiastes 7:20

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Indeed, **there is not a righteous man on earth** who continually does good and who never sins.

First Corinthians 14:21

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

In the Law it is written, "BY MEN OF STRANGE
TONGUES AND BY THE LIPS OF STRANGERS I WILL
SPEAK TO THIS PEOPLE, AND EVEN SO THEY WILL
NOT LISTEN TO ME," says the Lord.

Isaiah 28:11-12

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Indeed, He will speak to this people Through
stammering lips and a foreign tongue, He who said to
them, "Here is rest, give rest to the weary," And, "Here is
repose," **but they would not listen.**

John 10:34

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Jesus answered them, "Has it not been **written in your Law, 'I SAID, YOU ARE GODS'?**

Psalm 14:1-3

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, they have committed abominable deeds; There is no one who does good. The LORD has looked down from heaven upon the sons of men To see if there are any who understand, Who seek after God. They have all turned aside, together they have become corrupt; **There is no one who does good, not even one.**

Psalm 53:1-3

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God," They are corrupt, and have committed abominable injustice; There is no one who does good. God has looked down from heaven upon the sons of men To see if there is anyone who understands, Who seeks after God. Every one of them has turned aside; together they have become corrupt; **There is no one who does good, not even one.**

Psalms 82:6

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

I said, "You are gods, And all of you are sons of the Most High.

Romans 3:10-19

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

as it is written, "**THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE;** THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS, THERE IS NONE WHO SEEKS FOR GOD; ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME USELESS; THERE IS NONE WHO DOES GOOD, THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE." "THEIR THROAT IS AN OPEN GRAVE, WITH THEIR TONGUES THEY KEEP DECEIVING, THE POISON OF ASPS IS UNDER THEIR LIPS"; "WHOSE MOUTH IS FULL OF CURSING AND BITTERNESS"; (Continued...)

"THEIR FEET ARE SWIFT TO SHED BLOOD,
DESTRUCTION AND MISERY ARE IN THEIR PATHS,
AND THE PATH OF PEACE THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN."
"THERE IS NO FEAR OF GOD BEFORE THEIR EYES."

Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to
those who are under the Law, so that every mouth may
be closed and all the world may become accountable to
God;

**The Book of the Law
contained the
"blessings and the
curse"**

Joshua 8:30-35

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Then Joshua built an altar to the LORD, the God of Israel, in Mount Ebal, just as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded the sons of Israel, **as it is written in the book of the law of Moses**, an altar of uncut stones on which no man had wielded an iron tool; and they offered burnt offerings on it to the LORD, and sacrificed peace offerings. He wrote there on the stones **a copy of the law of Moses, which he had written, in the presence of the sons of Israel**. (Continued...)

All Israel with their elders and officers and their judges were standing on both sides of the ark before the Levitical priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD, the stranger as well as the native. Half of them stood in front of Mount Gerizim and half of them in front of Mount Ebal, just as Moses the servant of the LORD had given command at first to bless the people of Israel. (Continued...)

Then afterward he read all the words of the law, the blessing and the curse, according to all that is written in the book of the law. There was not a word of all that Moses had commanded which Joshua did not read before all the assembly of Israel with the women and the little ones and the strangers who were living among them.

**The Book of the Law
apparently also kept
records.**

Joshua 24:19-28

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Then Joshua said to the people, "You will not be able to serve the LORD, for He is a holy God. He is a jealous God; He will not forgive your transgression or your sins. "If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then He will turn and do you harm and consume you after He has done good to you." The people said to Joshua, "No, but we will serve the LORD. (Continued...)"

" Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen for yourselves the LORD, to serve Him." And they said, "We are witnesses." "Now therefore, put away the foreign gods which are in your midst, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "We will serve the LORD our God and we will obey His voice. (Continued...)"

The Book of the Law apparently also kept records.

" So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made for them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem. **And Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God**; and he took a large stone and set it up there under the oak that was by the sanctuary of the LORD. Joshua said to all the people, "Behold, this stone shall be for a witness against us, for it has heard all the words of the LORD which He spoke to us; (Continued...)"

The Book of the Law apparently also kept records.

thus it shall be for a witness against you, so that you do not deny your God." Then Joshua dismissed the people, each to his inheritance.

**The books of "the
Law" compiled after
Moses?**

Deuteronomy 2:12

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

The Horites formerly lived in Seir, but the sons of Esau dispossessed them and destroyed them from before them and settled in their place, **just as Israel did to the land of their possession which the LORD gave to them.)**

Numbers 12:3

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

(Now the man Moses was very humble, **more than any man who was on the face of the earth.**)

**The Book of the Law
was "lost" and "found"
on several occasions**

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Now Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho. And the LORD showed him all the land, Gilead as far as Dan, and all Naphtali and the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, and all the land of Judah as far as the western sea, and the Negev and the plain in the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar.

(Continued...)

Then the LORD said to him, "This is the land which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants'; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not go over there." So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD. And He buried him in the valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor; but no man knows his burial place to this day. (Continued...)

Although Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died, his eye was not dim, nor his vigor abated.

So the sons of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the days of weeping and mourning for Moses came to an end. Now Joshua the son of Nun was filled with the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him; and the sons of Israel listened to him and did as the LORD had commanded Moses. (Continued...)

Since that time no prophet has risen in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face, for all the signs and wonders which the LORD sent him to perform in the land of Egypt against Pharaoh, all his servants, and all his land, and for all the mighty power and for all the great terror which Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

Nehemiah 8:13-18

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Then on the second day the heads of fathers' households of all the people, the priests and the Levites were gathered to Ezra the scribe that they might gain insight **into the words of the law. They found written in the law how the LORD had commanded through Moses that the sons of Israel should live in booths during the feast of the seventh month.** (Continued...)

So they proclaimed and circulated a proclamation in all their cities and in Jerusalem, saying, "Go out to the hills, and bring olive branches and wild olive branches, myrtle branches, palm branches and branches of other leafy trees, to make booths, as it is written. (Continued...)"

" So the people went out and brought them and made booths for themselves, each on his roof, and in their courts and in the courts of the house of God, and in the square at the Water Gate and in the square at the Gate of Ephraim. The entire assembly of those who had returned from the captivity made booths and lived in them. The sons of Israel had indeed not done so from the days of Joshua the son of Nun to that day. And there was great rejoicing. (Continued...)

The Book of the Law was "lost" and "found" on several occasions

He read from the book of the law of God daily, from the first day to the last day. And they celebrated the feast seven days, and on the eighth day there was a solemn assembly according to the ordinance.

Nehemiah 8:1-8

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

And all the people gathered as one man at the square which was in front of the Water Gate, and they asked Ezra the scribe **to bring the book of the law of Moses which the LORD had given to Israel.** Then Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly of men, women and all who could listen with understanding, on the first day of the seventh month. (Continued...)

He read from it before the square which was in front of the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of men and women, those who could understand; and all the people were attentive to the book of the law. Ezra the scribe stood at a wooden podium which they had made for the purpose. And beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand; (Continued...)

and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah and Meshullam on his left hand. Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD the great God. And all the people answered, "Amen, Amen!" while lifting up their hands; then they bowed low and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. (Continued...)

The Book of the Law was "lost" and "found" on several occasions

Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, the Levites, explained the law to the people while the people remained in their place. **They read from the book, from the law of God,** translating to give the sense so that they understood the reading.

Second Chronicles 17:7-9

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Then in the third year of his reign he sent his officials, Ben-hail, Obadiah, Zechariah, Nethanel and Micaiah, to teach in the cities of Judah; and with them the Levites, Shemaiah, Nethaniah, Zebadiah, Asahel, Shemiramoth, Jehonathan, Adonijah, Tobijah and Tobadonijah, the Levites; and with them Elishama and Jehoram, the priests. They taught in Judah, **having the book of the law of the LORD with them**; (Continued...)

The Book of the Law was "lost" and "found" on several occasions

and they went throughout all the cities of Judah and
taught among the people.

Second Kings 21:1-9

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Manasseh was twelve years old when he became king, and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Hephzibah. He did evil in the sight of the LORD, according to the abominations of the nations whom the LORD dispossessed before the sons of Israel. For he rebuilt the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; (Continued...)

and he erected altars for Baal and made an Asherah, as Ahab king of Israel had done, and worshiped all the host of heaven and served them. He built altars in the house of the LORD, of which the LORD had said, "In Jerusalem I will put My name." For he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the LORD. He made his son pass through the fire, practiced witchcraft and used divination, and dealt with mediums and spiritists. (Continued...)

He did much evil in the sight of the LORD provoking Him to anger. Then he set the carved image of Asherah that he had made, in the house of which the LORD said to David and to his son Solomon, "In this house and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen from all the tribes of Israel, I will put My name forever. (Continued...)"

"And I will not make the feet of Israel wander anymore from the land which I gave their fathers, if only they will observe to do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all the law that My servant Moses commanded them." But they did not listen, and Manasseh seduced them to do evil more than the nations whom the LORD destroyed before the sons of Israel.

Second Kings 22:8-13

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Then Hilkiah the high priest said to Shaphan the scribe, "I have found the book of the law in the house of the LORD." And Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan who read it. Shaphan the scribe came to the king and brought back word to the king and said, "Your servants have emptied out the money that was found in the house, and have delivered it into the hand of the workmen who have the oversight of the house of the LORD. (Continued...)"

The Book of the Law was "lost" and "found" on several occasions

" Moreover, Shaphan the scribe told the king saying,
"Hilkiah the priest has given me a book." And Shaphan
read it in the presence of the king. When the king heard
the words of the book of the law, he tore his clothes.
(Continued...)

Then the king commanded Hilkiah the priest, Ahikam the son of Shaphan, Achbor the son of Micaiah, Shaphan the scribe, and Asaiah the king's servant saying, "Go, inquire of the LORD for me and the people and all Judah concerning the words of this book that has been found, for great is the wrath of the LORD that burns against us, because **our fathers have not listened to the words of this book, to do according to all that is written concerning us.**"
