

Midrash *Yitro* (“Jethro”) Exodus 18:1 – 20: (23) 26

Chapter 17 takes place at *Rephidim*
Chapter 18 takes place at Mt. Sinai
Chapter 19 as they traveled from *Rephidim* to Sinai } Torah here is NOT in Chronological Order

The Coming of Jethro

Exodus 18:1-27

Jethro & Reuel are the same person (Name & Title)
Hobab (found in Numbers 10:29) is *Reuel's* son, Moses' brother-in-law

Jethro = “His Abundance” Gershom = “Foreigner There”

Zipporah = “Little Bird” Eliezer = “God is My Help”

Zipporah: The Circumcision of her Sons

Exodus 4:24-26

Abraham was saved by the “Blood of the Son”!

“*The people come to me to inquire of God*”

Possibly could be: Rulers over: **1,000's** (Criminal Courts)

50's (Military Courts)

100's (Civil Courts \$\$\$)

10's (Small Claims Courts \$)

A Kingdom of Priests

Exodus 19:1-8

סִינַי *Sinai* – means “thorny” - suggests Burning Bush that Moses encountered there

“before the mountain” – **נֶגֶד** *neged* – in opposition to

The beginning of the Mosaic Covenant in verse 5 & 6

Conditional: “if then”

“peculiar treasure” compare to Matthew 13:44 (ref Deut 7:6; Psalm 135:4 & Malachi 3:17)

We are to be “living stones” – not rocks, but jewels!

Foundation of the New Jerusalem

God's Plan Before Golden Calf: Kingdom of Priests & Holy Nation

Exodus 19:20-24

God's Plan After Golden Calf: Sons of Aaron to be Priests

Exodus 32:28-29

Abrahamic Covenant: Possess the Land (Unconditional)

Genesis 12:1-3

Mosaic Covenant: Occupy the Land (Conditional)

Genesis 15:8-16

Preparing for God's Appearance

Exodus 19:9-15

Sanctify & Wash – the 2nd *mikvah*

Jacob commanded changing clothes at Bethel

Genesis 35:2-3

Moses sets bounds around the mount = **Threshold Covenant**

Exodus 19:12

The Divine Council Upon the Mountain

Exodus 19:16-25

On the Mount: Thunderings, Lightning & Clouds: (compare with Isaiah 6)

“thunderings” **קִלּוֹת** *kolot* literally, “voices”

The 4 Living Creatures have voices

Revelation 6:1

“lightning” **לִפְיֵד** *lapid* “torch”

Same “torch” seen by Abram

Genesis 15:17-18

“clouds” **עָנָן** - *anon* – same word used:

Noah's Rainbow in the Cloud

Genesis 9:13

Pillar of Cloud by Day

Exodus 13:21

The Cloud Separating the Egyptians from the Israelites

Exodus 14:19

The Day of the LORD

Joel 2 & Zephaniah 1

“Smoke of a Furnace” in verse 18. Where have we heard that before?

Genesis 15:17

Isaiah saw smoke in his vision of God's Throne Room

Isaiah 6:4

Chapter 19 is the fulfillment of God's Burning Bush Prophecy in Ex 3:12

The Ten Commandments

These are the conditions of the Mosaic Covenant

Exodus 20:1-17

Exodus 15:23-26

The 10 Commandments:

- | | | |
|---------------------|---|---|
| With
God | } | 1 st “No other gods” (v 3) tells us <u>What</u> |
| | | 2 nd “No graven images” (v 4&5) tells us <u>How</u>
Not forbidding just idols, but <u>anything</u> that we put ahead of Him |
| | | 3 rd “Not take Name in vain” (v7); not just forbidding profanity, but not “hallowing” His Name |
| | | 4 th “Remember the Shabbat” (v 8-11); do we keep the Shabbat <i>kadosh</i> ?? |
| | | 5 th “Honor your father & mother” (v 12); this goes far beyond mere obedience |
| With
Man | } | 6 th “No Murder” (v 13); God’s death penalty in Gen 9:5 & 6 |
| | | 7 th “No Adultery” (v 14); Yeshua’s interpretation in Matt 5:27-28 |
| | | 8 th “No Stealing” (v 15); “misappropriation of use”; endorses private ownership (Capitalism). |
| | | 9 th “No False Testimony” (v 16); possibly causes the most pain & suffering! |
| | | 10 th “No Coveting” (v 17); the only “Law” that deals with intent. |

How Yeshua “interprets” these Commandments concerning:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Murder | Matthew 5:21-26 |
| Adultery | Matthew 5:27-32 |
| Taking God’s Name in Vain | Matthew 5:33-42 |
| Loving Your Neighbor | Matthew 5:43-48 |

The People Respond

“And (the people) said to Moses, ‘You speak with us and we will hear; but do not let God speak with us, lest we die.’”

Exodus 20:18-23

Exodus 20:19

They preferred man’s interpretation of God’s Word
To hear directly from God, you must die to yourself!

The people respected the Threshold Covenant with Moses and God Verse 21

“thick darkness” - עֲרָפֶל - *araphel*. Also in the Day of the LORD Zephaniah 1:15

God’s Prohibition of Idols of Silver & Gold

The Commandment to Build Altars

Exodus 20:24-26

Altar of Earth אֲדָמָה – *adamah*

To Make Offerings; Burnt Offering– עֹלָה – *olah*

Peace or Fellowship Offering– שְׁלָמִים – *shelem*

In the Places where God “remembers” He will Meet us there
He will Bless us

Altar of Stone: From Natural Stone – not hewn - No Steps

Law vs Covenant

We Keep His (Covenant) Commandments) because we Love Him
The Law was given when the Covenant was broken (Golden Calf)

Psalms 40:8 & John 14:21

Galatians 4:19

Yeshua has a Double Claim on us:

He Made us

Genesis 2-3

He Redeemed us

Exodus 19:4-5

Haftarah: Isaiah 6:1-7:6; Isaiah’s Vision of the Divine Council

Brit Chadashah: Revelation 4:2-11 The Divine Council in the Book of Revelation