

# COVENANT AT SINAI

## Exodus 19

### Xvi

#### Sinaitic Covenant ended in failure

- fulfillment depended on complete obedience  
Deut 27:26
- legal requirements were holy and good  
Rom 7:12
- the Law was weak through the flesh  
Rom 8:3
- the Law was doomed to fail
  - need for a new covenant to replace it

### Xv

#### Sinaitic different from Abrahamic, Davidic, and New Covenants

- Sinaitic is conditional
  - curses of Sinaitic missing from others
  - Law was added because of transgressions  
Gal 3:19
  - Sinaitic Covenant does not invalidate promises of the Abrahamic Covenant  
Gal 3:17-18
- temporal and not eternal  
Heb 8:13

### Xi

#### Israel will be a holy nation

Ex 19:6

- unique nation, one of a kind, different from all others
- set apart (separated) from common use (profane) for God's exclusive use (possession)
- given great privileges and responsibilities
  - high moral and spiritual standards required
- general principle: Lev 11:44



### Xiv

#### formation of the Sinaitic Covenant

- theophany on Mt. Sinai  
Deut 33:2
- Yahweh's love for His people  
Deut 33:3
  - giving of the Law  
Deut 33:4
- covenant is ratified—God becomes their King  
Deut 33:5; cf. Num 23:21
- Israel becomes His people  
Ps 114:1-2

### Xii

#### Covenant at Sinai is conditional

- continuance of theocratic kingdom is conditioned on obedience (Ex 19:5)
- obedience perpetuates Israel's mediatorial position as a "kingdom of priests" among the nations
  - the kingdom ceased when the people failed
  - 5 cycles of discipline  
Lev 26; Deut 28
- not same as unconditional Abrahamic Covenant (Deut 5:2-3)
  - disobedience will not remove Israel's election as the chosen people

### Xiii

#### Israel accepted the offer of the Covenant Ex 19:8

- their acceptance of the covenant pleased God  
Deut 5:28
  - God knew they would not keep it  
Deut 5:29
- easier to make pledges than to fulfill them