

Bible Study #36
Community Lutheran Church
11/11/2020

1. Genesis 19 continued from last week...
 - a. Moses prepares the people for what is to happen in 3 days...
 - i. After Moses had gone down the mountain to the people, he consecrated them, and they washed their clothes. Then he said to the people, "Prepare yourselves for the third day. Abstain from sexual relations." On the morning of the third day there was thunder and lightning, with a thick cloud over the mountain, and a very loud trumpet blast. Everyone in the camp trembled. Then Moses led the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. Mount Sinai was covered with smoke, because the Lord descended on it in fire. The smoke billowed up from it like smoke from a furnace, the whole mountain trembled violently, and the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder. Then Moses spoke and the voice of God answered him. 19:14-19
 1. This is power of God on display for the Israelites
 2. This boosts Moses credibility
 - b. God reinforces the command about not approaching the holiness of God on this mountain...
 - i. The Lord descended to the top of Mount Sinai and called Moses to the top of the mountain. So Moses went up and the Lord said to him, "Go down and warn the people so they do not force their way through to see the Lord and many of them perish. Even the priests, who approach the Lord, must consecrate themselves, or the Lord will break out against them." Moses said to the Lord, "The people cannot come up Mount Sinai, because you yourself warned us, 'Put limits around the mountain and set it apart as holy.' " The Lord replied, "Go down and bring Aaron up with you. But the priests and the people must not force their way through to come up to the Lord, or he will break out against them." So Moses went down to the people and told them. 19:20-25
 1. Ultimately God is preparing them for their next step of faith and their next covenant...
 2. This is prelude to what happens in chapter 20 of Exodus.
2. Exodus 20
 - a. God speaks...
 - i. And God spoke all these words: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. 20:1-2
 1. God lays out his credentials.
 2. I am the One who freed you... follow me
 - b. Commandment 1
 - i. "You shall have no other gods before me. 20:3

1. If we could do this... we wouldn't need the other 9.
2. We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

c. Commandment 2

- i. "You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments. 20:4-6
 1. No graven images.
 2. Luther counts this as part of the first commandment and divides it up differently later in the commandments.

d. Commandment 3

- i. "You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name. 20:7
 1. Remember God's name has power... let's keep even the name of God special.
 2. We should fear and love God, and so we should not use his name to curse, swear, practice magic, lie, or deceive, but in every time of need call upon him, pray to him, praise him, and give him thanks.

e. Commandment 4

- i. "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. 20:8-11
 1. This goes back to Genesis 1... the day God rested as a model for us to do the same.
 2. We should fear and love God, and so we should not despise his Word and the preaching of the same, but deem it holy and gladly hear and learn it.

f. To be continued next week...