

1. But in the sign of the promise, the Lord makes clear that His grace will be manifested as He pleases to whom He pleases
 - ☐ It is here that we see the formation of the principle of a remnant in Israel receiving God's grace.
 - ☐ God's covenant of Law given to Israel holds all Israel guilty of sin.
 - And God's promise of favor (or grace) is limited to a remnant within Israel according to God's choice.
2. This is the teaching Paul gives in Romans 9-11, which he culminates by saying in... Romans 11:5-6
 - ☐ Paul reminds us that throughout Israel's history, there was the remnant within Israel who had received God's grace and the rest that had not.
 - ☐ And the distinction was purely a matter of God's favor or grace.
 - It did not depend on the Law
 - For God Himself stated to Moses that He is showing favor or grace on whom He wishes within Israel
 - ☐ Then in response to the Lord's declaration, Moses bows low, and requests that the Lord re-establish His covenant with the people.

Verses 9 - 27...

The Lord summarizes the Law again to remind Moses of all that the Lord had spoken.

1. And in summary, the Lord promises to re-establish the covenant with the people of Israel.
 - ☐ The formal re-instatement of the covenant doesn't happen until Deuteronomy at the end of the 40 years of wandering.
 - ☐ The word *deuteronomy* means... *the second law*, because it was the second time the covenant of the Law was given to Israel
 - ☐ In that future day, it is given to a new generation of Israel after the older generation has died out.
 - The wait for their death was a requirement of their sin with the golden calf.
2. So here we see the Lord renew this covenant with Israel, which will begin to regulate their life even now.
 - ☐ The terms of the law are unchanged in this quick summary from what was given earlier on the mountain.
 - ☐ Obviously, we have already covered their meaning in those earlier chapters
3. Notice that the Lord particularly emphasizes the importance of not falling to idolatry again.
 - ☐ They should not be associated with the people of Canaan else they will fall prey to idolatry.
 - ☐ This is a reminder of a basic principle of scripture.
 - When God's people seek to bind themselves with the world, we do not make the world more holy by our association.
 - On the contrary, the world will corrupt us.
 - Only by a shared faith in the promises of God can men find the opportunity to be yoked together.

4. Interestingly, in v.24 the Lord promises that when they leave their property to attend the three feasts each year, their homes and land will not be disturbed in their absence.
 - That's a powerful reminder of how our obedience to God's commandments bring blessings that make obedience easy.
 - We need not worry about the consequences of obedience, for they are always a blessing whatever form they take.
 - But there is also a change coming to the law as a result of the sin of Israel at the mountain.
5. If we go to Numbers 3 we discover that the Lord will only permit the Levites to serve Him in the temple, rather than the Firstborn of all tribes...*Numbers 3:5-13*
6. The original command from the Lord was to have the firstborn of every tribe dedicated to the tabernacle service.
 - Since only Levites stood with Moses on the day of the sin at the mountain, God now makes the Levites the tribe to serve Him.
 - Of course, the Lord always had this plan in mind, which is why there was a thirteenth tribe in Israel after the time of Joseph.
 - Having received the renewing of the covenant and the Law, Moses descends a second time to the people, but this time something is different.

Verses 28 - 35...

Once again Moses spends forty days on the mountain with the Lord.

1. During this time we're told Moses never eats or drinks, yet the Lord sustains him.
 - This is a powerful example of the truth of Jesus' words, when he said: *Matt. 4:4*
 - In the case of Matthew 4, Jesus was teaching that our eternal life is sustained ultimately not by physical means but by the power of God's word.
 - Here we see a dramatic proof of the power of God's word to sustain us, both spiritually and even physically when necessary.
 - Once again, Moses descends the mountain carrying the two stone tablets.
2. But this time as Moses returns from this restating of the covenant, he finds his face glowing
 - The shining of Moses face was another example of the afterglow of God's glory.
 - This was an effect of coming so close to the glory of God.
 - Each time that Moses came to speak to God in the tent of meeting, he found the same effect occurring.
 - His face would shine with the reflected glory of God.
3. We're told that this effect was very unnerving to the people of Israel.
 - They were made very nervous by it.
 - Nevertheless, Moses commanded the people to come near him so he could once again relate all the commandments of God.
 - Thereafter, Moses took to wearing a veil when he wasn't speaking to the Lord to hide the glow of his face from the people.
 - We might assume from this text that the reason Moses did this was because the people were so uncomfortable with the image of Moses' shining face

4. But Paul teaches us in 2 Corinthians that this was not the reason for the veil.
 2 Cor. 3:5-18
 - Time does not permit an in-depth treatment of this important passage, so we'll hit a few highlights as they apply to Exodus 34.
5. Paul compares two covenants in this passage:
 -the covenant of the Law...with the New Covenant of grace in Christ.
 - The old is called a covenant of letter engraved on stone and a ministry of death
 - The new is called the covenant of the Spirit, of life and a ministry of righteousness.
6. Both covenants were revealed with a measure of glory, Paul says...
 - The Old came with the glory of God revealed in Moses' face.
 - But that glory was one that faded.
 - The glory of God shining in Moses' face would slowly fade away in the days after Moses had an encounter with God.
 - Paul says it was this fading of God's glory that caused Moses to begin wearing a veil
 - In v.13 Paul says Moses took to wearing a veil so Israel would not stare at the fading of God's glory.
 - Moses didn't want the people to see the glory of God leaving.
 - Paul then ends by teaching that Moses unknowingly created a beautiful picture of the relationship between the Old Covenant and the New.
7. The hearts of the people of Israel in the desert were hardened, by God, just as He had done to Pharaoh in Egypt.
 - So that even as the Law of God was read to them, they couldn't see the glory of God in it.
 - They couldn't appreciate the testimony of Christ and of grace hidden in the meaning of the Law.
 - The truth of these things was hidden from them, as pictured in the way Moses hid the glory of God by putting a veil over his face.
8. That veil over their hearts is only lifted by Christ Himself, Who is the author and perfecter of our salvation Hebrews says.
 - Even today, when the Law of Moses is read to someone, they cannot see it as a picture of Christ until they have first come to the Lord in faith.
 - Then the veil of understanding is lifted.
 - Finally, Paul alludes to a beautiful picture of Christ in the circumstances Of Exodus 34
9. Paul says in v.18 that today we are reflecting the glory of God as well, in the way we are being transformed into the glory of Christ by the Spirit.
 - Just as Moses reflected the Lord's glory by his testimony to Israel, so are we reflecting the Lord's glory to the world by our testimony.
 - But our testimony is one of life not merely words.
 - We shine the glory of Christ by how we reflect Him in our actions as well as our testimony.
10. Finally, Moses himself becomes another picture of Christ through His intercession in Exodus 34.
 - He sought for an intimate relationship with the Father.
 - He asked for God's grace to be given to His people.

- He asked to see the Father's glory, and then He reflected that glory to the world.
 - And the Father responded that He will have mercy on those He chooses.
 - And Moses would speak to a people who could not perceive the message because of a veiled and hardened heart.
 - These details picture Christ's ministry to Israel as well.
11. Paul says Christ was the reflection of God's goodness and glory... *Col. 1:15-19*
12. In John's Gospel, we hear Jesus petitioning the Father in ways similar to the way Moses petitioned the Lord... [John 17:18-24](#)
1. Jesus seeks to have the world know that the Father sent Him, just as Moses wanted the world to know that he represented God and Israel was His people.
 - Jesus asks that the Father would love His people even as He loved Christ.
 - And that those the Father has given to Christ from among those in the world would see the Father's glory which was given to Christ.
 - Again these words mirror the way Moses appealed to the Father and saw His glory and reflected it to the world.
 - So as we end these chapters, the nation is once again in a covenant of Law.
 2. Yet they this generation is also bound to endure penalties for their sin
 - Because they are an unbelieving generation, one that has been hardened and will not receive God's grace.
 - Yet Israel will be preserved through a remnant.
 3. In the meantime, God is showing grace to Moses and others within the nation.
 - And in His grace, He fulfills His promises to Abraham's descendants to bring them into the land.
 4. And by the renewing of the covenant, the nation may now proceed forward with building the tabernacle.
 - So that the glory of the Lord may dwell in the midst of Israel.
 - Just as the Lord promised to Moses.