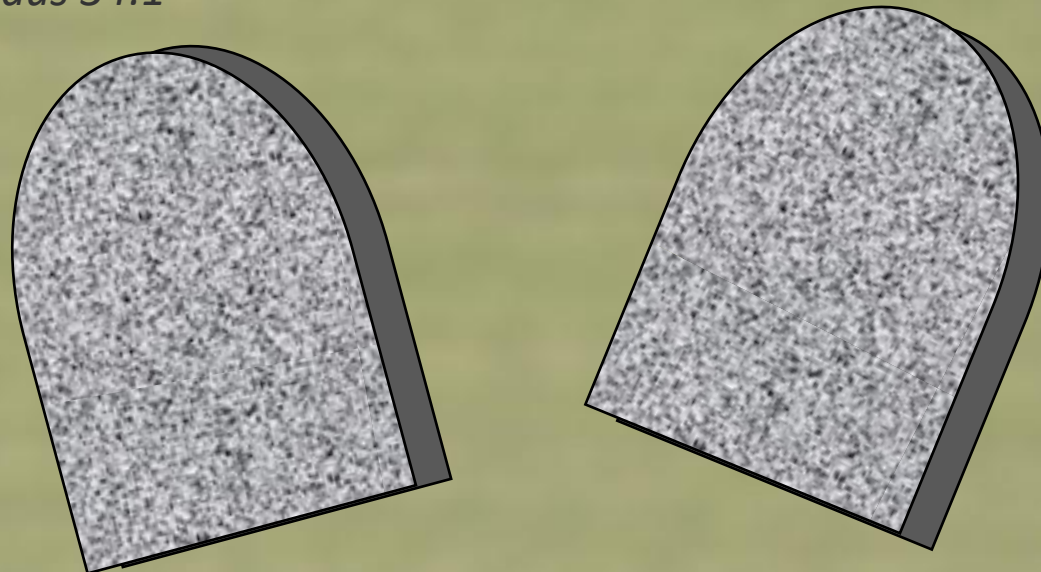


# Two New Tablets

## Exodus 33-34

*Hew thee two tables of stone like unto the first: and I will write upon these tables the words that were in the first tables, which thou brakest.*

*Exodus 34:1*



# Two Beliefs

1. A young man transgresses a commandment. He experiences guilt and shame. He believes that Heavenly Father will never forgive him of his sin.



God is forgiving.

2. A different young man transgresses the same commandment. He thinks the sin he has committed is not a big deal. He believes that because he is generally a good person, God will not punish him for his sin.



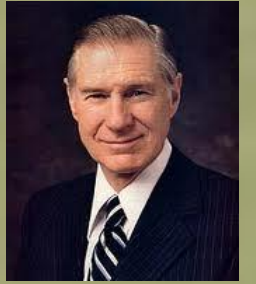
God will hold us accountable for our sins.

# Punishment For the Israelites

Evil Tidings=Bad News



# Believing Requires Action



If you prepare to walk down the path of life, you can be rewarded beyond your dreams and expectations.

But to achieve this, you must work very hard, save, be wise, and be alert.

You must learn to deny yourselves of worldly gratification.

You must be faithful in paying tithes; you must keep the Word of Wisdom; you must be free from other addictions.

You must be chaste and morally clean in every respect. You should accept and be faithful in all of the calls that come to you. Steadiness and toil will serve you better than brilliance. (1)

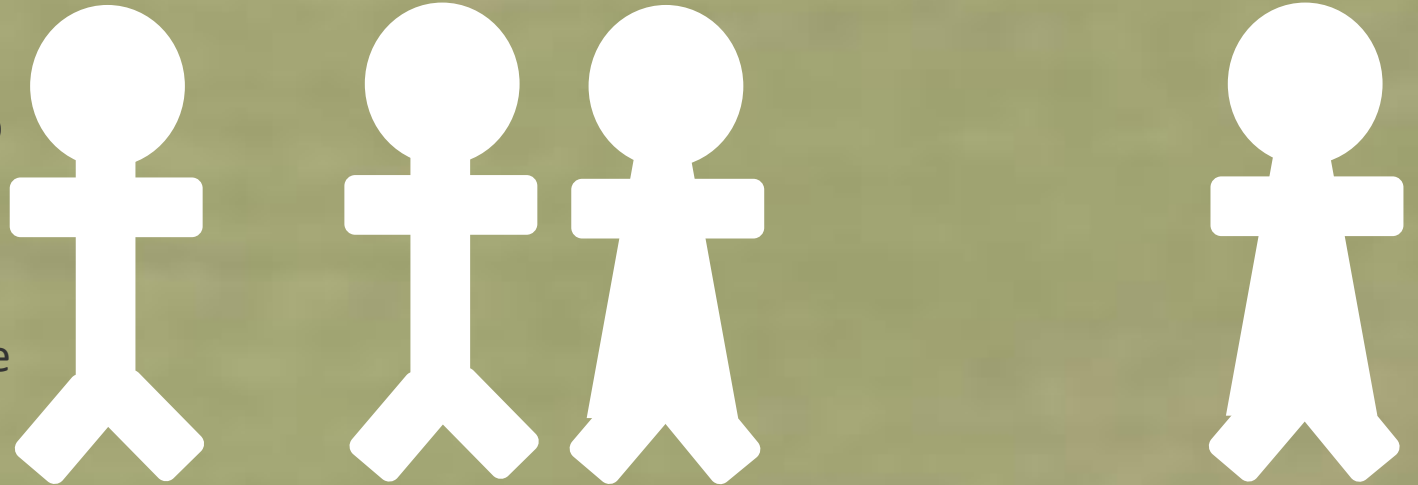


# Mourning



The Israelites lost the blessings of the Lord

If you want to stay close to someone who has been dear to you, but from whom you are separated, you know how to do it. You would find a way to speak to them, you would listen to them, and you would discover ways to do things for each other. The more often that happened, the longer it went on, the deeper would be the bond of affection. If much time passed without the speaking, the listening, and the doing, the bond would weaken.



God is perfect and omnipotent, and you and I are mortal. But he is our Father, he loves us, and he offers the same opportunity to draw closer to him as would a loving friend. And you will do it in much the same way: speaking, listening, and doing. (2)

“The promised blessing for honoring [the] covenant [of baptism] is *that we may always have His Spirit to be with us* (see D&C 20:77). ...

“... Precisely because the promised blessing is *that we may always have His Spirit to be with us*, we should attend to and learn from the choices and influences that separate us from the Holy Spirit.



“The standard is clear. If something we think, see, hear, or do distances us from the Holy Ghost, then we should stop thinking, seeing, hearing, or doing that thing. If that which is intended to entertain, for example, alienates us from the Holy Spirit, then certainly that type of entertainment is not for us.

Because the Spirit cannot abide that which is vulgar, crude, or immodest, then clearly such things are not for us. Because we estrange the Spirit of the Lord when we engage in activities we know we should shun, then such things definitely are not for us.” (2)

# Tent of Meeting

The 'tent' is neither the sanctuary of the tabernacle which was not made till after the perfect restoration of the covenant, nor another sanctuary that had come down from their forefathers and was used before the tabernacle was built, ...

...but a tent belonging to Moses, which was made into a temporary sanctuary by the fact that the pillar of cloud came down upon it, and Jehovah talked with Moses there, and which was called by the same name as the tabernacle, ...

because Jehovah revealed Himself there, and everyone who sought Him had to go to this tent outside the camp.”

(3)



# New Stone Tablets

Lord commanded Moses to create another set of stone tables.

The Lord said He would not write all the same things on the second set of tables



*And the Lord said unto Moses, Hew thee two other tables of stone, like unto the first, and I will write upon them also, the words of the law, according as they were written at the first on the tables which thou brakest; but it shall not be according to the first, for I will take away the priesthood out of their midst; therefore my holy order, and the ordinances thereof, shall not go before them; for my presence shall not go up in their midst, lest I destroy them.*

*JST Exodus 34:1*

# Withholding the Priesthood

*But I will give unto them the law as at the first, but it shall be after the law of a carnal commandment; for I have sworn in my wrath, that they shall not enter into my presence, into my rest, in the days of their pilgrimage. Therefore do as I have commanded thee, and be ready in the morning, and come up in the morning unto mount Sinai, and present thyself there to me, in the top of the mount.*

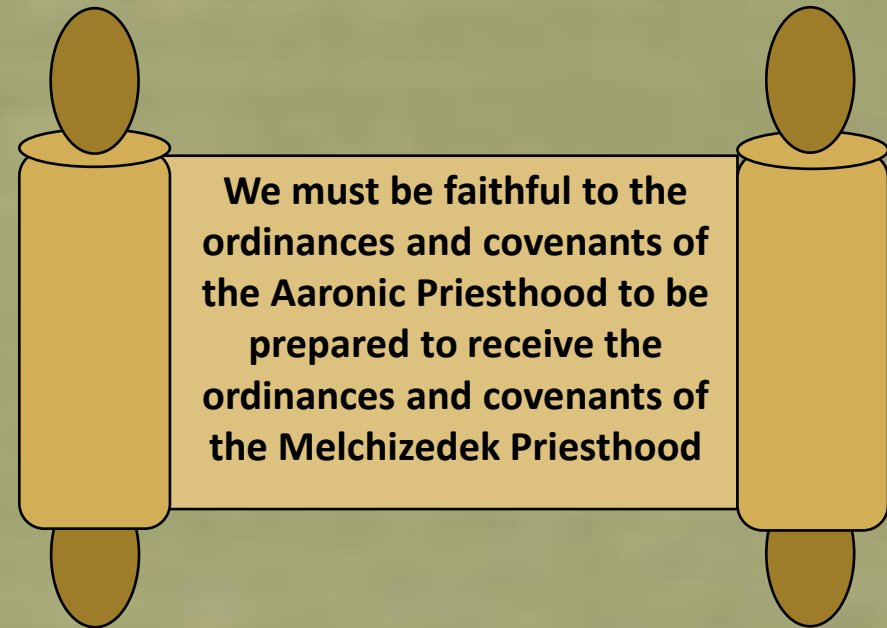
***Therefore, he took Moses out of their midst, and the Holy Priesthood also;  
And the lesser priesthood continued, which priesthood holdeth the key of the ministering of angels and the preparatory gospel;  
D&C 84:25-26***



The children of Israel at this time were not given the ordinances and covenants of the Melchizedek Priesthood (which are necessary for us to become like God and dwell in His presence), the Lord allowed the Aaronic Priesthood to continue with them

# The Lesser Priesthood

*“And I will write on the tables the words that were on the first tables, which thou brakest, save the words of the everlasting covenant of the holy priesthood, and thou shalt put them in the ark” (JST, Deuteronomy 10:2)*



“I want you all to know [God], and to be familiar with Him. ...

“... It is the first principle of the gospel to know for a certainty the character of God”

“Three things are necessary in order that any rational and intelligent being may exercise faith unto life and salvation.

“First, the idea that [God] actually exists.

“Secondly, a *correct* idea of [God’s] character, perfections, and attributes.

“Thirdly, an actual knowledge that the course of life which [the person] is pursuing is according to [God’s] will” (4)



# The Lord is Merciful and Just

Mercy is the compassionate treatment of a person greater than what is deserved, and it is made possible through the Atonement of Jesus Christ. Our Heavenly Father knows our weaknesses and sins. He shows mercy when He forgives us of our sins and helps us return to dwell in His presence. (5)



One of God's attributes is justice, and we would not have the faith—because of fear—to live righteously or to love better or to repent more readily if somehow we didn't think that justice would count for us, if somehow we thought God would change His mind and decide there was another set of rules. Because we know that God is just and would cease to be God if He weren't so, we have the faith to go forward, knowing that we will not be the victims of whimsy or caprice or a bad day or a bad joke. That assurance is very encouraging. ...

I know it isn't easy to go back and undo and make a new beginning, but I believe with all my heart that it is easier and surely more satisfying to begin anew than to go on and try to believe that justice will not take its toll. (6)

# “By No Means Clear the Guilty”



Those who deliberately choose wickedness, who consciously procrastinate repentance, or who in any premeditated or knowing way break the commandments, planning for easy repentance, will be judged by God and a “bright recollection of all [their] guilt”.

We cannot knowingly sin on Saturday, then expect automatic forgiveness by partaking of the sacrament on Sunday. ... We should none of us put off repentance. The blessings of repentance begin as we begin to repent. (7)



*The spirit and the body shall be reunited again in its perfect form; both limb and joint shall be restored to its proper frame, even as we now are at this time; and we shall be brought to stand before God, knowing even as we know now, and have a bright recollection of all our guilt.  
Alma 11:43*

# The Feast of Unleavened (no yeast) Bread

*Seven days thou shalt eat unleavened bread, as I commanded thee, in the time of the month Abib: for in the month Abib thou camest out from Egypt.*

Occurs on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the first month

The use of unleavened bread was significant because the absence of leaven denoted purity and holiness.



Sin, Corruption, and Pride.

*Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees. Matthew 16:6*

During the course of the Passover meal, the unleavened bread is broken into three pieces, and the middle piece is buried for a time (before eating it), then recovered again. The second or middle reference throughout scripture always is the Son (Father, Son, and Holy Ghost) which is Jesus Christ. Therefore, the burying and the coming forth of the broken pieces of bread is a representation, or type and shadow, of Christ's burial and resurrection.

# Matrix is Mine

"All that opens the womb is mine".

The verse was part of the Old Testament law, stating that the firstborn male of every womb, and the first male of livestock, belonged to the Lord.



"You shall redeem the firstborn of a donkey with a lamb, but if you do not redeem it, you must break its neck. And you shall redeem all the firstborn of your sons".

- Meaning:** The firstborn of humans and the firstborn of unclean animals (like donkeys, which couldn't be sacrificed) could be "redeemed" (bought back).
- Redemption:** To redeem a donkey, a lamb was offered as a substitute. For firstborn sons, a symbolic "price" was paid through redemption to remove them from direct service to God and keep them in their family.
- Consequence:** If an unclean animal was not redeemed, its neck was to be broken, as it was considered to be God's property.

# Observe

## Sabbath

The 7<sup>th</sup> day is a day of rest from all labors



## Feast of the weeks

Jewish holiday (Shavuot) celebrating the first fruits of the wheat harvest and commemorating the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai, occurring 50 days after the barley harvest. It involves a "night of learning," reading the Ten Commandments, and a special grain offering of leavened bread. In Christianity, the day is known as Pentecost and marks the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, often seen as the birth of the Church.



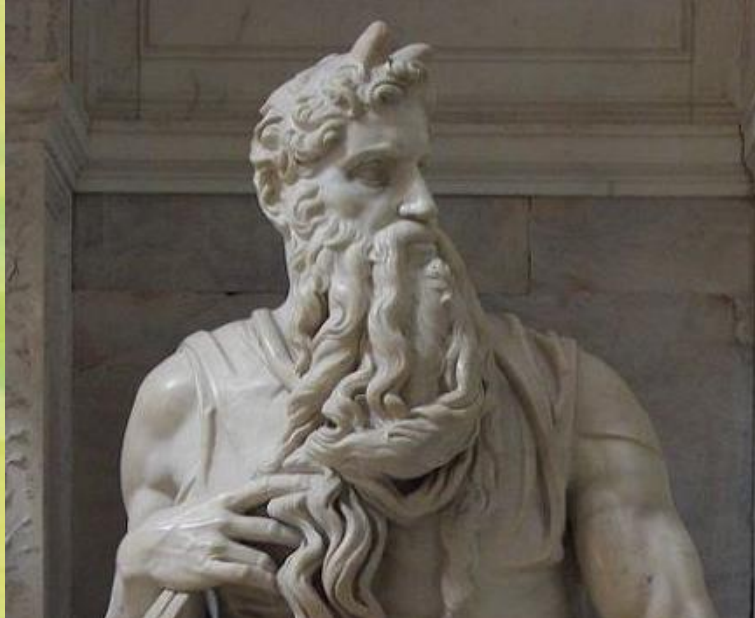
## Men children appear before the Lord

Mandates that all Israelite males were to appear before God three times a year at His appointed feast days. Passover (Pesach), the Feast of Weeks (Shavuot), and the Feast of Booths (Sukkot).



# Face Shone

The word *shone* is used to translate the Hebrew verb “qaran” This is from a noun meaning “horn”. It depicts radial beams of light, like the “horns’ of morning—rays seen over the horizon before sunrise.



A mistranslation of the Latin Bible in Michelangelo’s time caused him to put horns on the head of his heroic statue of Moses.

## Sources:

## Videos:

“Where Justice, Love, and Mercy Meet,” from time code 0:00 to 5:36.

“The Mediator” (10:44)



1. James E. Faust *Pioneers of the Future: “Be Not Afraid, Only Believe”* Oct. 1997 Gen. Conf.
2. Elder David A. Bednar (“That We May Always Have His Spirit to Be with Us,” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2006, 29–30).  
Presentation by ©<http://fashionsbylynda.com/blog/>
3. Keil and Delitzsch, Commentary, 1:2:233–34. Old Testament Institute Manual
4. Prophet Joseph Smith (*Lectures on Faith*[1985], 38); (in *History of the Church*, 6:305).
5. Mercy Topics and Questions
6. Jeffrey R. Holland (“The Justice and Mercy of God,” *Ensign*, Sept. 2013, 18, 19)
7. Elder Gerrit W. Gong (“Happy and Forever,” *Liahona*, Nov. 2022, 84)
8. A Latter-day Saint Commentary on the Old Testament by Ellis T. Rasmussen pg. 123

**The Joseph Smith Translation** adds an important clarification to Exodus 34:1–2 that helps us understand that the Lord said He would not write all of the same things on the second set of tables:

“And the Lord said unto Moses, Hew thee two other tables of stone, like unto the first, and I will write upon them also, the words of the law, according as they were written at the first on the tables which thou brakest; but it shall not be according to the first, for I will take away the priesthood out of their midst; therefore my holy order, and the ordinances thereof, shall not go before them; for my presence shall not go up in their midst, lest I destroy them.

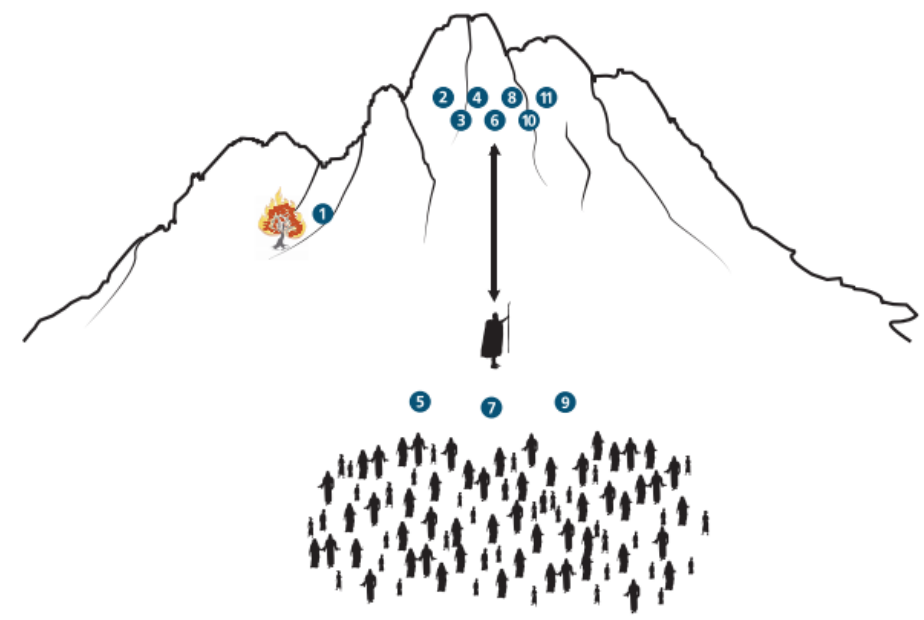
“But I will give unto them the law as at the first, but it shall be after the law of a carnal commandment; for I have sworn in my wrath, that they shall not enter into my presence, into my rest, in the days of their pilgrimage. Therefore do as I have commanded thee, and be ready in the morning, and come up in the morning unto mount Sinai, and present thysself there to me, in the top of the mount” (Joseph Smith Translation, Exodus 34:1–2 [in the Bible appendix]).

### **The Lesser Priesthood: (Not Quite Full)**

As a result of the failure of the Israelites to observe the gospel law administered by Moses under the authority of the Melchizedek Priesthood, the Lord gave an additional law of performances and ordinances and “confirmed a priesthood also upon Aaron and his seed, throughout all their generations” (D&C 84:18) to administer it. This priesthood was of lesser power and authority than the priesthood of Melchizedek and was used to administer the outward ordinances, particularly as characterized by the ceremonies of the law of Moses.

The Aaronic Priesthood continued “with the house of Aaron among the children of Israel” from Aaron until John the Baptist, who was a priest in the Aaronic order (D&C 84:26–27), and by this authority he prepared the way for and baptized Jesus. Nineteen centuries later this same John was sent from heaven as a resurrected being to confer the Aaronic Priesthood upon Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery. Bible Dictionary

**Moses’s and Israel’s Experiences with Jehovah at Mount Sinai (Exodus 19–34)**



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 <u>God calls Moses to deliver Israel (see Exodus 3:1–12).</u>                                  | 7 <u>Israel enters into a Covenant (Ex. 23)</u>          |
| 2 <u>God invites Israel to be His covenant People (Exodus 19:3–6)</u>                            | 8 <u>God writes His law on Stone Tablets (Ex. 31:18)</u> |
| 3 <u>Moses reports Israel’s desire to enter God’s Covnant (Ex. 19:7–8)</u>                       | 9 <u>Israel breaks the covenant (Ex. 32:9–14)</u>        |
| 4 <u>God warns that the people are not yet prepared to enter His presence (Ex. 19:20–21, 25)</u> | 10 _____   |
| 5 <u>God Speaks the Ten Commandments to the Israelites (Ex. 19–20)</u>                           | 11 _____   |
| 6 <u>God give Israel additional laws (Ex. 21–23)</u>   | _____  |