

# JOURNEY THROUGH THE BIBLE



**EXPLORING**  
**THROUGH**  
**EXODUS**



# EXODUS

*I AM THE LORD  
YOUR GOD  
WHO BROUGHT  
YOU OUT OF  
Egypt*

# EXODUS OUTLINE

**1-5 Shemot/Names:** Affliction in Egypt, discovery of baby Moses, Pharaoh

**6-9 Va'eira/And I appeared:** Plagues 1 to 7 of Egypt

**10-13 Bo/Come:** Last plagues of Egypt, first Passover

**13-17 Beshalach/When He Sent Out:** Parting the Sea, water, manna, Amalek

**18-20 Yitro/Jethro:** Jethro's advice, The Decalogue

**21-24 Mishpatim/Laws:** The Covenant Code

**25-27 Terumah/Donation:** God's instructions on the Tabernacle and furnishings

**27-30 Tetzaveh/You Shall Command:** God's instructions on the first priests

**30-34 Ki Tissa/When You Count:** Census, anointing oil, golden calf, stone tablets, Moses radiant

**35-38 Vayakhel/And He Assembled:** Israelites collect gifts, make the Tabernacle and furnishings

**38-40 Pekudei/Accountings:** Setting up and filling of The Tabernacle

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## THREE PARTS

### Part I: Israel in and out of Egypt (1.1–15.21):

- a. God Sees (1-2)
- b. Rise of Moses (3.1-7.7)
- c. Ten Plagues (7.7-13.16)
- d. Exodus (13.17-15.21)

### Part II: Sinai and covenant (15.22–24.18):

- a. Wilderness (15.22-18.27)
- b. Sinai Theophany (19 & 24)
- c. Covenant (20-23)
- d. Sinai Theophany (19 & 24)

### Part III: Sanctuary and new covenant (25:1–40:34):

- a. Covenant Renewal (25-31)
- b. Golden Calf/Tablets (32-34)
- c. Tabernacle Construction (25-40)

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**Waters Turn to Blood**  
Exodus 7:14-25



**Amphibians (Frogs)**  
Exodus 7:26-8:11



**Gnats (Lice)**  
Exodus 8:12-15



**Flies**  
Exodus 8:16-28



**Disease on Livestock**  
Exodus 9:1-7

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# The Ten Plagues of Egypt

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**Unhealable Boils**  
Exodus 9:8-12



**Hail and Fire**  
Exodus 9:13-35



**Locusts**  
Exodus 10:1-20



**Darkness**  
Exodus 10:21-29



**Death of First-Born**  
Exodus 11:1-12:36

# EXODUS 13-17

## Chapter 13

- Consecration of the Firstborn:
- The Festival of Unleavened Bread:
- Guidance by Pillar:

## Chapter 14

- Crossing the Red Sea:
- Israelites' Fear and Trust:

## Chapter 15

- Song of Moses:
- Bitter Waters of Marah:
- Elim:

## Chapter 16

- Manna and Quail:
- Sabbath Observance:

## Chapter 17

- Water from the Rock:
- Amalekites Defeated:







# FOUR CRISES

- **Water Shortage (Wood)**
- **Lack of Food (Manna)**
- **Water Shortage (Rock)**
- **Military Threat (Staff)**



# EXODUS 15

## Song of Moses

- Known as “Song of the Sea”
- Perhaps the **OLDEST** section in all of Exodus, being the oldest depiction of the Exodus. (Or written later in an “old style”).
- Sung during the Easter Vigil to in the “recounting of Salvation”
- Different than Song of Moses in Deut.

# EXODUS 18-20

## Exodus 18: Jethro's Advice

- Jethro's Visit
- Moses' Leadership
- Jethro's Counsel
- Implementation

## Exodus 20: The Ten Commandments

- Introduction
- The Decalogue
- The People's Fear
- Moses' Reassurance

## Exodus 19: At Mount Sinai

- Arrival at Sinai
- God's Covenant Proposal
- Preparation
- God's Descent





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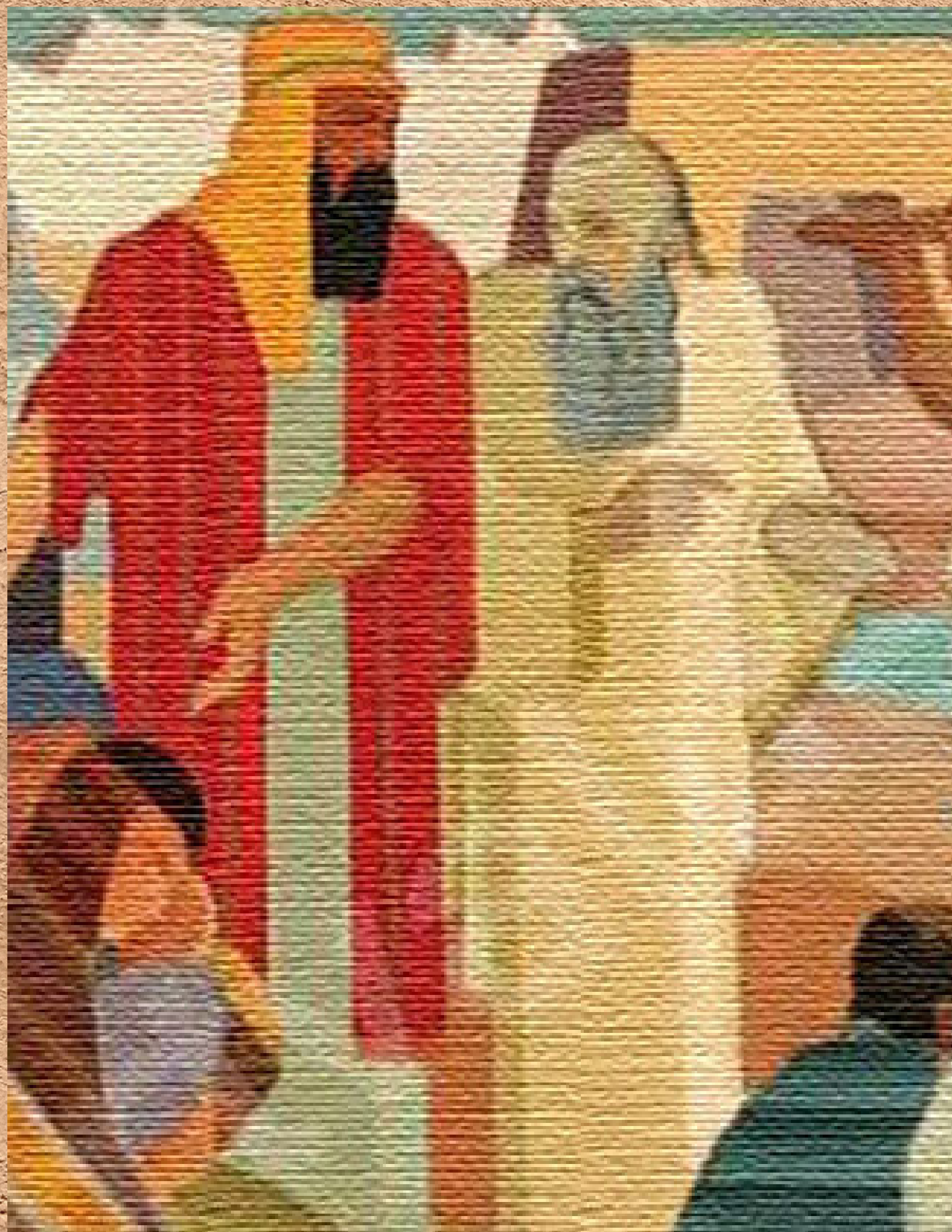
## Exodus 19: At Mount Sinai

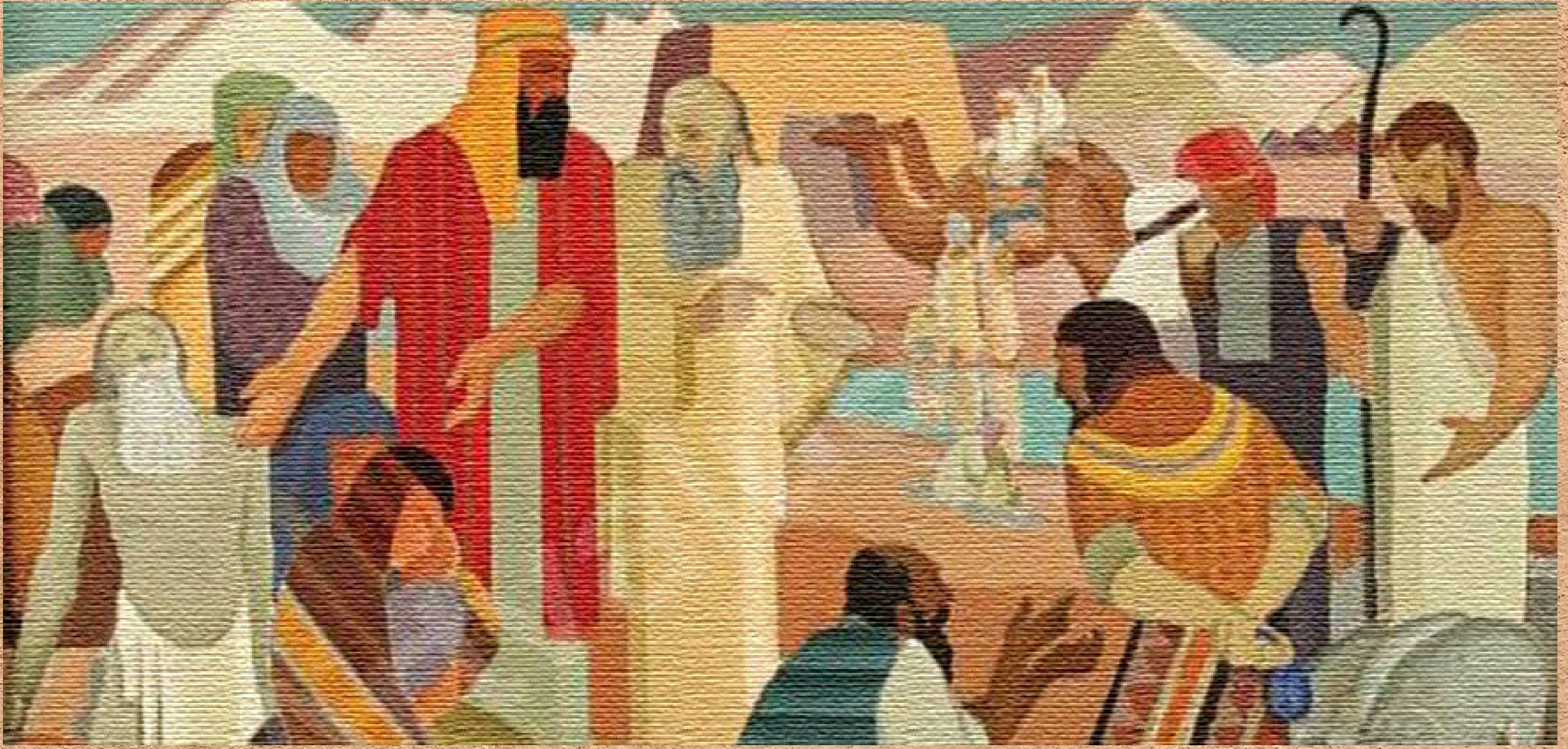
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# EXODUS 18

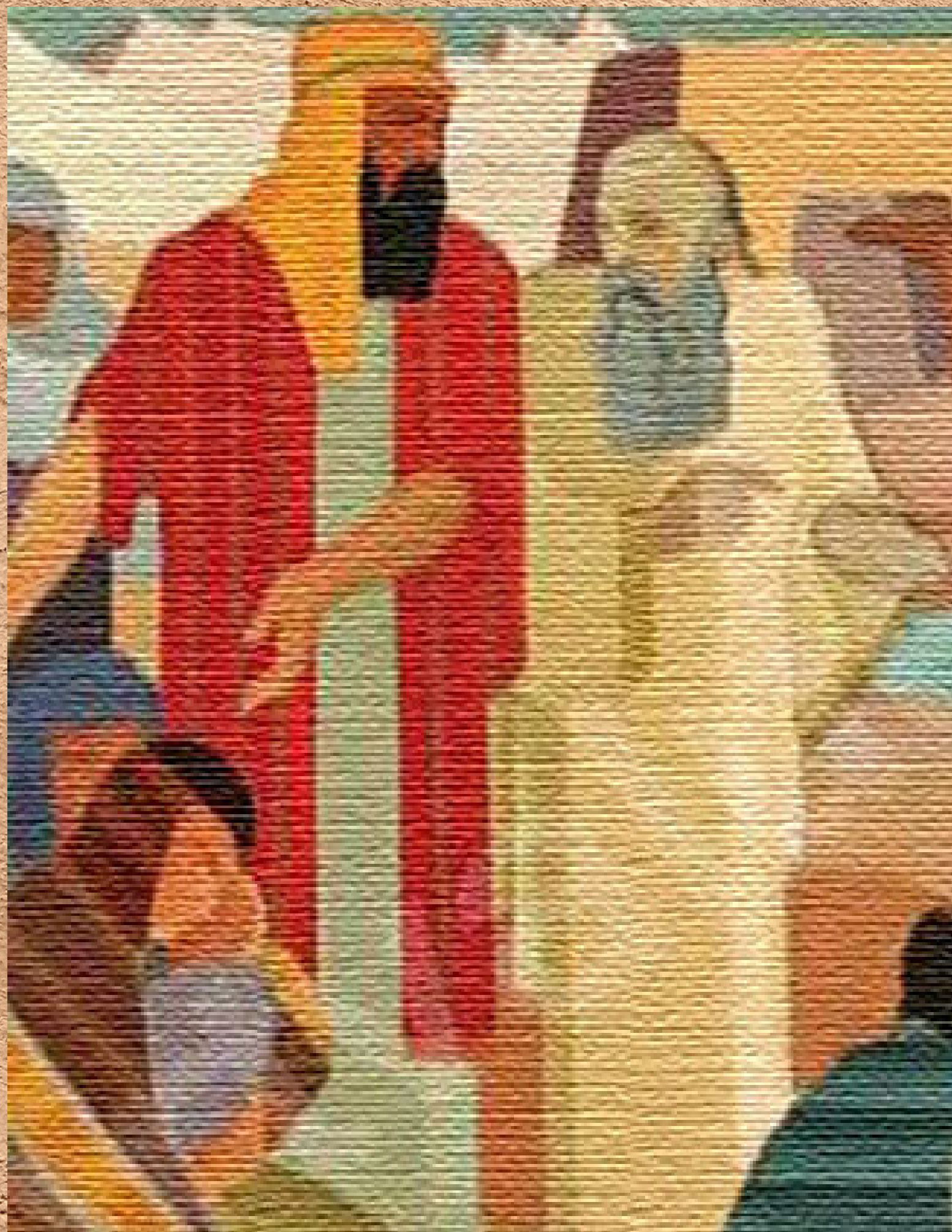
- Jethro's Visit: Moses' father-in-law, Jethro, visits Moses, bringing with him Moses' wife and two sons. They rejoice over the good things God has done for Israel.
- Moses' Leadership: Jethro observes Moses judging the people from morning till evening.
- Jethro's Counsel: Jethro advises Moses to appoint capable leaders over thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens to judge minor disputes, allowing Moses to handle only the major cases. This system would make the task more manageable for Moses and serve the people efficiently.
- Implementation: Moses heeds Jethro's advice, selecting capable men and appointing them as leaders (1,000, 100, 50, 10)





# EXODUS 18

- **The Importance of Humility:** Moses, despite being chosen by God to lead the Israelites, did not let pride prevent him from listening to his father-in-law, Jethro. This teaches us the value of humility and being open to advice, regardless of our position or status.
- **Recognizing Our Limitations:** Moses was trying to judge all the disputes of the Israelites by himself, leading to exhaustion. This highlights that even the strongest leaders have limitations. Recognizing our own limitations allows us to seek help when needed and ensures that we don't burn out.





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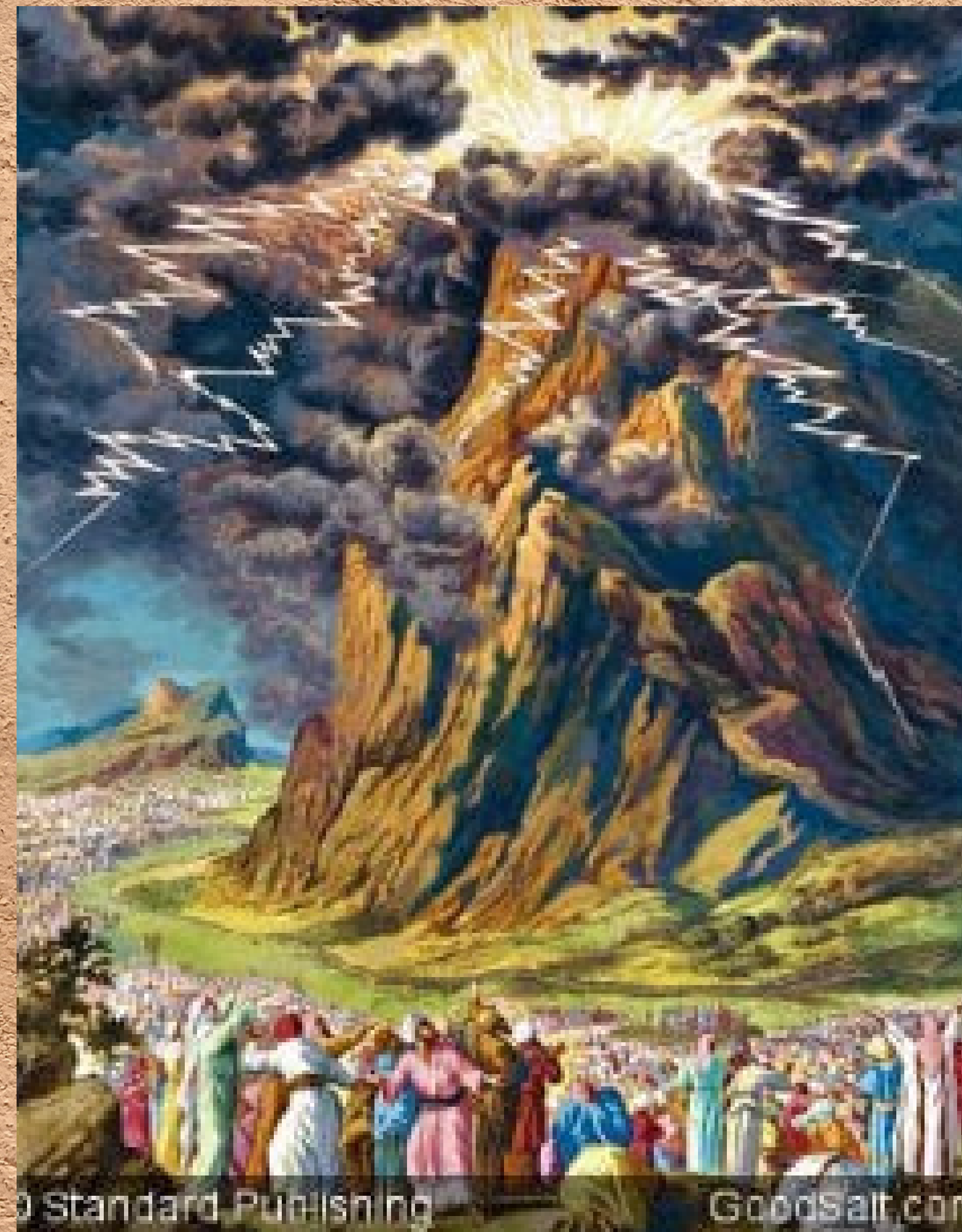
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- Introduction
- The Decalogue
- The People's Fear
- Moses' Reassurance



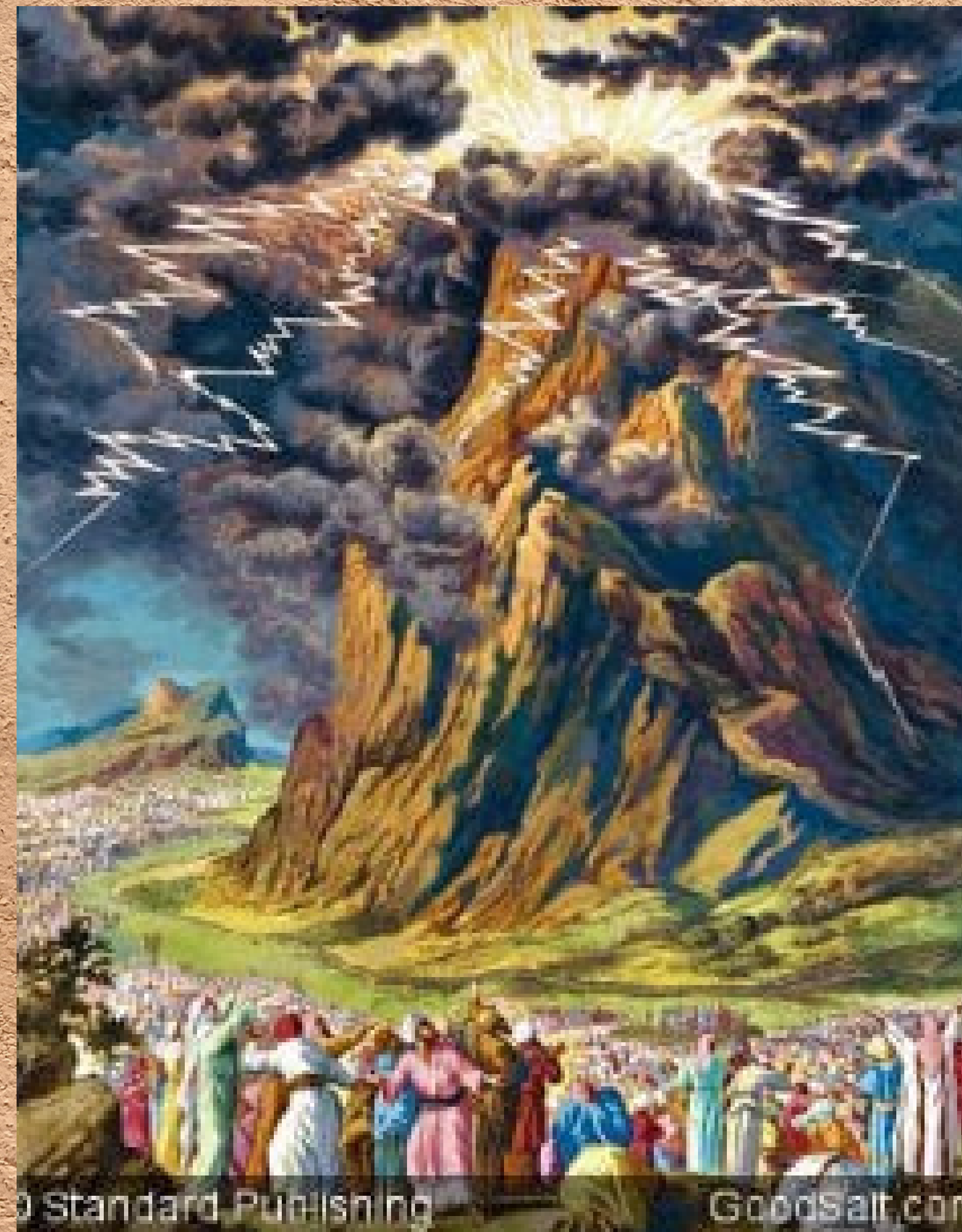
# EXODUS 19

- Arrival at Sinai: Three months after leaving Egypt, the Israelites arrive at Mount Sinai.
- God's Covenant Proposal: God tells Moses that if the Israelites obey Him and keep His covenant, they will be His treasured possession among all nations and a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.
- Preparation: Moses conveys God's words to the people, and they agree to do all that the Lord has spoken. The people are then consecrated, and they wash their clothes in preparation for God's descent on Mount Sinai.
- God's Descent: On the third day, there's thunder, lightning, a thick cloud, and a loud trumpet blast. Mount Sinai is covered in smoke because God descends on it in fire. The whole mountain trembles.



# EXODUS 19

- **The Call to Holiness:** God's desire was for Israel to be a "kingdom of priests and a holy nation." This call to holiness is also extended to us. We are reminded that our lives should reflect God's character and that we are set apart for His purposes.
- **Preparing to Meet with God:** The Israelites are instructed to consecrate themselves before encountering God. This teaches us the importance of spiritual preparation and self-examination before approaching God, whether it's in prayer, worship, or reading His word.



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# EXODUS 20

- Introduction: God speaks to the Israelites directly, laying out the foundational moral code for them.
- The Decalogue
- The People's Fear: The Israelites are afraid because of the thunder, lightning, and the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain in smoke. They ask Moses to speak to them instead of God, fearing they will die.
- Moses' Reassurance: Moses tells the people not to be afraid, explaining that God's display of power is to ensure they fear Him and do not sin.



# Decalogue:



WHAT IS NUMBER ONE????

# Decalogue:



WHAT IS NUMBER TWO????

# Decalogue:



CAN YOU NAME THEM ALL?





# Decalogue:

IT DEPENDS....

Christian or Jewish?

Hebrew or Greek?

What church are you from?

Deut or Exodus?

Exodus 20 or 34?

A mix? How to mix?

How to count?

# Decalogue:

<b>NUMBERING OF THE DECALOGUE IN EXODUS 20.1–17</b>			
	<b>MOST JEWISH TRADITIONS</b>	<b>EASTERN ORTHODOX, ANGLICAN, MOST PROTESTANT CHURCHES</b>	<b>ROMAN CATHOLIC AND LUTHERAN CHURCHES</b>
Ex 20.2 (divine self-identification)	1	prologue	1
20.3 (other gods)	2	1	1
20.4–6 (idols)	2	2	1
20.7 (divine name)	3	3	2
20.8–11 (sabbath)	4	4	3
20.12 (parents)	5	5	4
20.13 (murder)	6	6	5
20.14 (adultery)	7	7	6
20.15 (theft)	8	8	7
20.16 (perjury)	9	9	8
20.17a (coveting)	10	10	9
20.17b (coveting)	10	10	10

# Decalogue:

**LXX: Septuagint** (3rd century BC) Generally followed by Eastern Orthodox Christians.

**P: Philo** (1st century) Extensive homily explaining the order of the commandments.

**R: Reformed Christians** Follow Calvin's Institutes (1536) which aligns with the Septuagint.

Also found in the Anglican Book of Common Prayer.

LXX	P	R	T	S	A	C	L	Commandment (KJV)	Exodus 20:1–17		Deuteronomy 5:4–21	
									Verses	Text	Verses	Text
—	—	(1)	1	—	—	1	—	I am the LORD thy God	2	[28]	6	[28]
1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	Thou shalt have no other gods before me	3	[29]	7	[29]
2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image	4–6	[30]	8–10	[30]
3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain	7	[31]	11	[31]
4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy	8–11	[32]		
4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	Observe the sabbath day, to keep it holy			12–15	[33]
5	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	Honour thy father and thy mother	12	[34]	16	[35]
6	8	6	6	5	5	5	5	Thou shalt not kill	13	[36]	17	[36]
7	6	7	7	6	6	6	6	Thou shalt not commit adultery	14	[37]	18	[38]

7	6	7	7	6	6	6	6	Thou shalt not commit adultery	14	[37]	18	[38]
8	7	8	8	7	7	7	7	Thou shalt not steal	15	[39]	19	[40]
9	9	9	9	8	8	8	8	Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour	16	[41]	20	[42]
10	10	10	10	9	10	10	9	Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house	17a	[43]		
10	10	10	10	9	10	10	9	Thou shalt not desire thy neighbour's house			21b	[44]
10	10	10	10	9	9	9	10	Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife	17b	[45]	21a	[46]
10	10	10	10	9	10	10	10	or his slaves, or his animals, or anything of thy neighbour	17c	[47]	21c	[48]
—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	You shall set up these stones, which I command you today, on <i>Aargaareezem</i> . (Tsedaka)	14c	[49][50]	18c	[49][51]

**T: Jewish Talmud (c. 200 CE)**

**S: Samaritan Pentateuch (c. 120 BCE)**

**A: Augustine (4th century)**

**C: Roman Catholicism**

**L: Lutherans (Luther's Large Catechism, 1529)**

# Decalogue:

	<b>Jewish</b>	<b>Catholic</b>	<b>Protestant</b>
<b>I</b>	I am the Lord your G-d who has taken you out of the land of Egypt.	I, the Lord, am your God. You shall not have other gods besides me.	You shall have no other gods but me.
<b>II</b>	You shall have no other gods but me.	You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God, in vain.	You shall not make unto you any graven images.
<b>III</b>	You shall not take the name of the Lord your G-d in vain.	Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day.	You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
<b>IV</b>	You shall remember the Sabbath and keep it Holy.	Honor your father and your mother.	You shall remember the Sabbath and keep it Holy.
<b>V</b>	Honor your mother and father.	You shall not kill.	Honor your mother and father.
<b>VI</b>	You shall not murder.	You shall not commit adultery.	You shall not murder.
<b>VII</b>	You shall not commit adultery.	You shall not steal.	You shall not commit adultery.
<b>VIII</b>	You shall not steal.	You shall not bear false witness.	You shall not steal.
<b>IX</b>	You shall not bear false witness.	You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.	You shall not bear false witness.
<b>X</b>	You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.	You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.	You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



I am the Lord...  
thou shalt not have  
strange gods  
before Me.



Thou shalt not take  
the name of the  
Lord thy God  
in vain.



Remember thou  
Keep holy the  
Lord's day.



Honour thy father  
and  
thy mother.



Thou shalt not  
Kill.



Thou shalt not  
commit  
adultery.



Thou shalt not  
steal.



Thou shalt not  
bear false witness  
against thy  
neighbor.



Thou shalt not  
covet thy neighbor's wife.



Thou shalt not  
covet thy neighbor's goods.

## The Ten Commandments- Exodus 20

1

No other gods  
besides God.

2

No idols,  
worship only  
God.

3

Always treat  
God's name  
with respect.

4

Have a day to  
rest and  
thank God  
every week.

5

Obey your  
parents.

6

Do not hurt  
others with  
words or  
actions.

7

Keep your  
promises to  
others and  
God.

8

Do not steal  
from others.

9

Always tell  
the truth.

10

Do not be  
jealous or  
envious of  
others.

The Greatest  
Commandment



Love the Lord your God  
with all your heart and  
with all your soul and  
with all your mind.



1 Keep God's name holy



1 Worship only God

1

1

1

1 Put God first

1

7 Rest on the 7th day

7

7 Keep it holy

7

7

7 Obey your parents



7 Don't hurt others



7 Don't cheat



7 Tell the truth



7 Don't steal



7 Be happy with what you have



7 Don't be jealous

Exodus 20

MBWelch







# The Ten Commandments

1

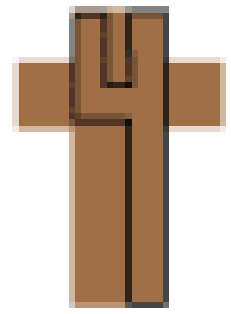


One God

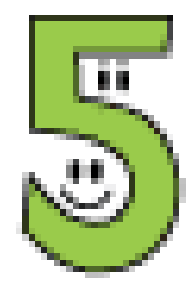
No Idols



Don't take the Lord's Name in Vain



Keep the Sabbath Holy



Honor Mom and Dad



Do Not Kill



No Adultery



Do Not Steal



Bear False Witness

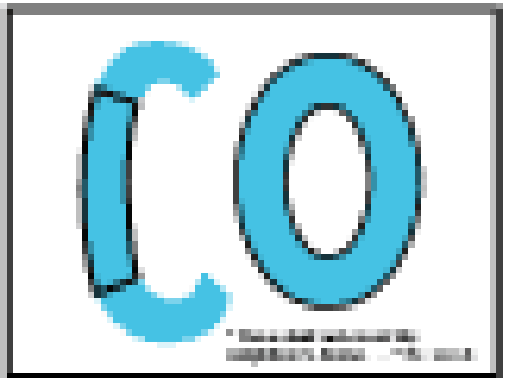
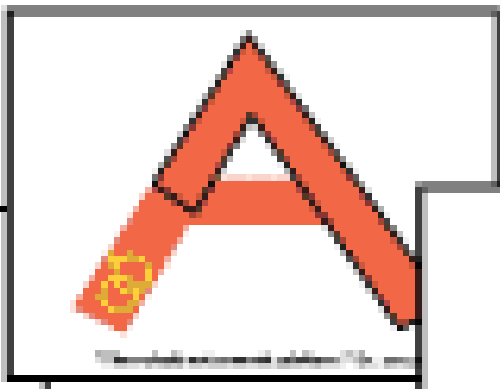
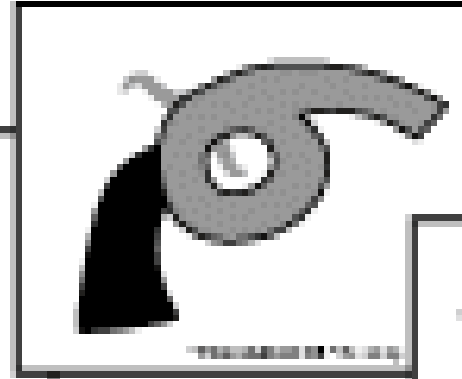
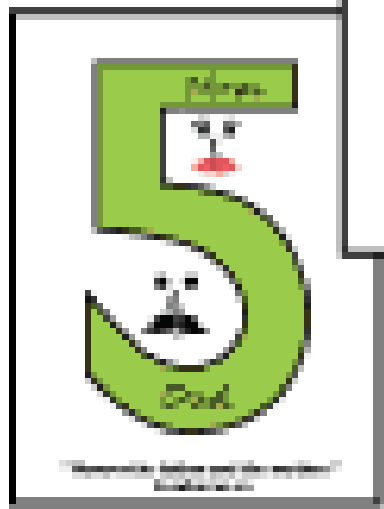
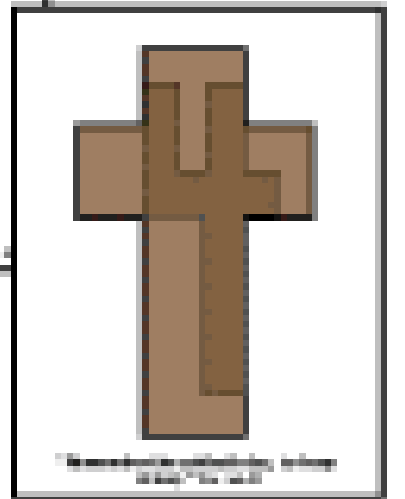
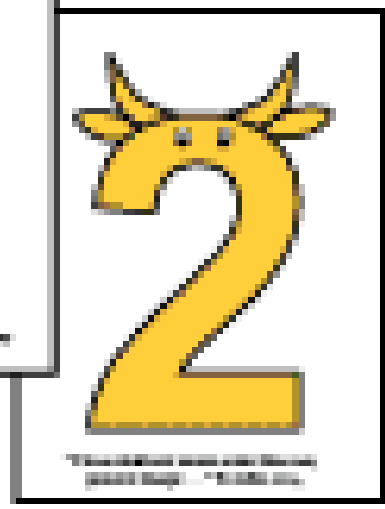


Do not Covet

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# Ten Commandment Number Posters



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# Decalogue: Law or Treaty?



The Decalogue has been interpreted in various ways throughout history. Two prominent interpretations are that of a law code and that of a suzerain-vassal treaty (or king treaty).

Both are GOOD interpretations, one as a universal moral code and one as a covenantal treaty.

# Decalogue: Law or Treaty?

The Decalogue as a Law Code:

- **Universality:** The Ten Commandments are broad in scope, addressing fundamental moral and religious principles applicable to all of humanity, such as the prohibitions against murder, theft, and adultery.
- **Similarity to Ancient Near Eastern Law Codes:** The format and content of the Decalogue have some parallels with other ancient law codes, like the Code of Hammurabi. These codes also list prohibitions and requirements for their societies.



# Decalogue: Law or Treaty?

## 1. Prohibition against Murder:

- Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:13): "You shall not murder."
- Code of Hammurabi (Law 206): "If a man has struck another in a brawl and has caused his death, that man shall swear, 'I did not strike him intentionally,' and he shall pay for the dead man to the brothers of the deceased."

## 2. Prohibition against Theft:

- Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:15): "You shall not steal."
- Code of Hammurabi (Law 6): "If a man has stolen goods from a temple, or house, he shall be put to death; and he that has received the stolen property from him shall be put to death."

## 3. Prohibition against False Testimony:

- Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:16): "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor."
- Code of Hammurabi (Law 3): "If a man bears false witness concerning grain or money, he himself shall, in that case, bear the penalty imposed in the case for which he bore false witness."

# Decalogue: Law or Treaty?

## 1. Religious Foundation:

- **Ten Commandments:** Rooted in a relationship with God, emphasizing worship of Yahweh and prohibition of idolatry.
- **Code of Hammurabi:** While invoking Babylonian gods in the prologue, the laws are more secular, focusing on societal matters.

## 2. Punishments:

- **Ten Commandments:** The Decalogue doesn't detail specific earthly punishments.
- **Code of Hammurabi:** Known for "lex talionis" (law of retaliation) with detailed punishments often based on social status.

## 3. Adultery:

- **Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:14):** Universal prohibition against adultery.
- **Code of Hammurabi (Laws 129-132):** Multiple laws on adultery with varying punishments based on circumstances and status.

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# Decalogue: Law or Treaty?

**The Decalogue as a Suzerain-Vassal Treaty:**

- **Structure and Format:** The format of the Decalogue mirrors the structure of ancient Near Eastern suzerain-vassal treaties. These treaties typically began with a preamble identifying the suzerain (king), followed by a historical prologue recounting the king's benevolent acts, stipulations for the vassal, blessings for obedience, and curses for disobedience. The Decalogue starts with God identifying Himself and recounting His act of delivering the Israelites from Egypt, followed by the stipulations (the commandments).
- **Relational Context: (NEXT SLIDE)**





# Decalogue: Law or Treaty?

**The Decalogue as a Suzerain-Vassal Treaty:**

- **Relational Context:** The Decalogue is presented within the context of a covenant relationship between God (the suzerain or king) and the Israelites (the vassals). The emphasis is on loyalty to God, similar to the loyalty a vassal would owe to a suzerain in such treaties.



**ANATOLIA**

Hatti

Ugarit

Ebla

Assyria

Assur

**MESOPOTOMIA**

Akkad

**CANAAN**

Jerusalem

Babylon

Babylonia

Sumer

**EGYPT**

Tanis

Memphis

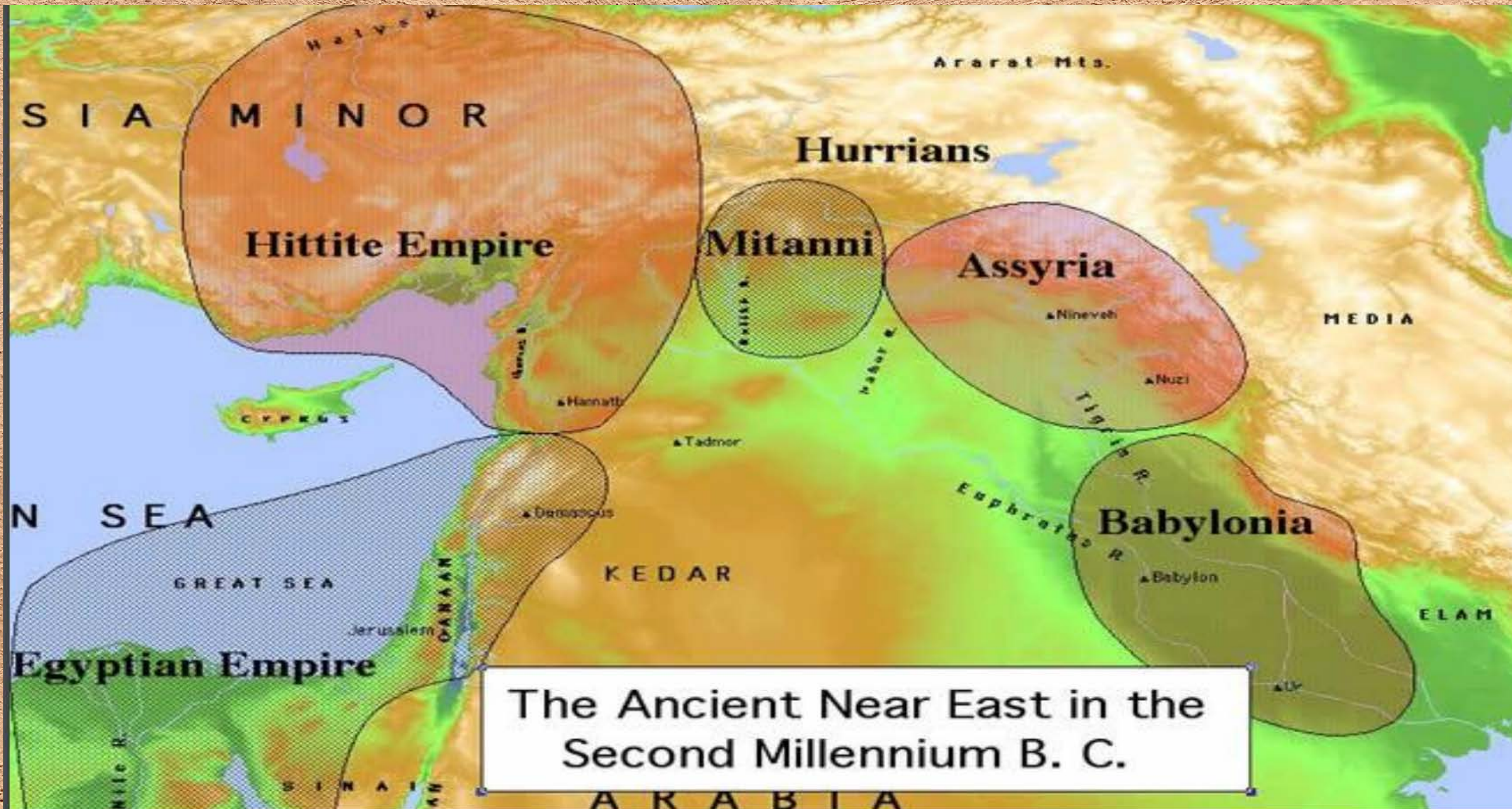
Thebes

Nile

Euphrates

Tigris

Mediterranean Sea



The Ancient Near East in the Second Millennium B. C.



# Decalogue: Law or Treaty?

## Structure of Suzerain-Vassal Treaties:

1. **Preamble:** Identification of the suzerain.
2. **Historical Prologue:** A recounting of the suzerain's past benevolent actions towards the vassal.
3. **Stipulations:** Terms and conditions the vassal must adhere to.
4. **Deposition and Provision for Reading:** Stating where the treaty would be kept and how often it should be read to remind the vassal of their obligations.
5. **Blessings and Curses:** Outlining the benefits of obedience and the consequences of disobedience.
6. **Witnesses:** Usually invoking deities to witness the agreement.

# Decalogue: Law or Treaty?

Comparison with the Decalogue and Sinai Covenant:

1. Preamble -- Treaty: Identification of the suzerain | Exodus 20: "I am the LORD your God..."
2. Historical Prologue-- Treaty: Recounting of the suzerain's benevolent actions | Exodus 20: "...who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery."
3. Stipulations-- Treaty: Terms and conditions for the vassal. | Exodus 20: The Ten Commandments themselves, which dictate the terms of the covenant relationship.
4. Deposition and Provision for Reading-- Treaty: Instructions on storing and reading the treaty | Deuteronomy 31:9-13: Moses writes down the law and commands it to be read every seven years to remind Israel of their covenant obligations.
5. Blessings and Curses-- Treaty: Outlines benefits and consequences | Deuteronomy 28: An extensive list of blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience.
6. Witnesses-- Treaty: Deities invoked as witnesses. | Deuteronomy 30:19: Heaven and earth are called as witnesses.

# **Decalogue: Law or Treaty?**

**The similarities in structure suggest that the Israelites were influenced by the cultural and legal norms of their time. However, while suzerain-vassal treaties emphasized the dominance of the suzerain and the subservience of the vassal, the Sinai Covenant emphasizes a loving relationship between God and His people, where God seeks their well-being and desires a mutual relationship.**

**Recognizing the Decalogue and the Sinai Covenant in the context of suzerain-vassal treaties provides a deeper understanding of the cultural backdrop of the biblical narrative and highlights the unique nature of Israel's relationship with God compared to other ancient Near Eastern societies.**

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- Jethro's Counsel
- Implementation

## Exodus 19: At Mount Sinai

- Arrival at Sinai
- God's Covenant Proposal
- Preparation
- God's Descent

## Exodus 20: The Ten Commandments

- Introduction
- The Decalogue
- The People's Fear
- Moses' Reassurance





# The Law



**Questions on  
18-20 Yitro/Jethro**

**Next Week Read  
21-24 Mishpatim/Laws**