

## *2 Meetings with God To Receive the Law*

*From Ex 24 to the end of 31 is Moses' first visit with God.*

*In Chapter 32 while Moses is gone, the people make and worship the golden calf.*

*32:7-14 Moses entreats the Lord not to destroy the people.*

*No shining face here.*

*32:15-30 The first tablets are smashed.*

*32:30-35 Then some grace and mercy are brought in.*

***6 who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.***

***7 But if the ministry of death, in letters engraved on stones, came with glory, so that the sons of Israel could not look intently at the face of Moses because of the glory of his face, fading as it was,***

All was not the same.

**The Giving of the Covenant**

**(Exod. 20—31)**

**All the people were to be priests (19:5-6).\***

**Moses ascended Mt. Sinai and God spoke with him there while the people waited below (32:31).**

**God sent His angel to destroy Israel's enemies (23:23).**

**The tabernacle in the center of the camp was to be the "tent of meeting" where God would meet with the people (25:8; 27:21;).**

**\*The Levites are chosen in Numbers 3 to replace the firstborn Israelites as priests.**

**The Restoring of the Covenant**

**(Exod. 33—34)**

**Only the Levites would be priests (32:29).**

**Moses ascended Mt. Sinai and God spoke with him there while the people waited below (19:20).**

**God sent His angel lest He destroy Israel (33:2-5).**

**Another "tent of meeting" outside the camp was where God met with Moses and Joshua only (33:7).**

Constable

*29 It came about when Moses was coming down from Mount Sinai (and the two tablets of the testimony were in Moses' hand as he was coming down from the mountain), that Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because of his speaking with Him.*

*30 So when Aaron and all the sons of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come near him.*

*31 Then Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the rulers in the congregation returned to him; and Moses spoke to them.*

*32 Afterward all the sons of Israel came near, and he commanded them to do everything that the LORD had spoken to him on Mount Sinai.*

*33 When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face.*

*34 But whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with Him, he would take off the veil until he came out; and whenever he came out and spoke to the sons of Israel what he had been commanded,*

*35 the sons of Israel would see the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face shone. So Moses would replace the veil over his face until he went in to speak with Him.*

***<sup>7</sup> But if the **ministry of death**, in letters engraved on stones, came with glory, so that the sons of Israel could not look intently at the face of Moses because of the glory of his face, fading as it was,***

### **Ministry Of Death**

- **Rm 4:15; for the Law brings about **wrath****
- **Rom. 5:20; The Law came in so **that the transgression would increase.****
- **Rom. 7;5; For while we were in the flesh, the sinful passions, which were aroused by the Law, were at **work in the members of our body to bear fruit for death.****
- **Gal 3:10, For as many as are of **the works of the Law are under a curse;** for it is written,.....**

<sup>6</sup> *who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of **the letter** but of the Spirit; for **the letter kills**, but the Spirit gives life.*

<sup>7</sup> *But if the **ministry of death**, in **letters engraved (written)** on stones, came with **glory**, so that the sons of Israel could not look intently at the face of Moses because of the glory of his face, fading as it was,*

The term, "**letter**," refers to the law.

The law **kills**. Its ministry is to **death**.

There was a **glory** connected with the law: a **glory** so great that the children of Israel could not look at, nor could they look at the reflection of it as seen in the face of Moses.

*<sup>8</sup> how will the ministry of the Spirit fail to be even more with glory?  
<sup>8</sup>How shall not rather the ministry of the Spirit will be **in glory**?*

The law system “***began with glory,***” not merely that it “was glorious.” It began, but it did not continue.

Now comes the question,

- The Gospel is a ministry of the life-giving Spirit. Verse 6
- When the ministry of the quickening Spirit comes in, it **abides in glory**.
- The Spirit **brings** righteousness and **ministers it to man** by means of faith.

***<sup>9</sup> For if the ministry of condemnation has glory, much more does the ministry of righteousness (super) *abound in glory.****

The greater glory of the new covenant.

The Law came with glory, but it brought death.

Both Law and righteousness came from God.

- The **mediator of the old** was Moses:
- The **mediator of the new** is Christ.

The results of the Old Brought death:

The new brings life and came with greater glory:

It has glory because where it came from God.

The glory of the new is so much greater than the old.



***Hebrews 12:18-26 (NASB)***

*22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels,  
23 to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect,  
24 and **to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant**, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks better than the blood of Abel.*

***Romans 3:21-23 (NASB)***

*21 But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,  
22 even **the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; .....***

***<sup>9</sup> For if the ministry of condemnation has glory, much more does the **ministry of righteousness** abound in **glory**.***

- It is the presence of the Holy Spirit, that **righteousness is being established**.
- I now have established **righteousness** given to me, and
- the whole blessing now is stamped with the **presence** of the Holy Spirit.
- It is what characterizes the thing - the **ministration of the gospel**.

***But you have come to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant.***

***10 For indeed what had glory, in this case has no glory because of the glory that surpasses it.***

- The glory of the new is so great that it eclipses the old.
- The glory of God **came upon** Moses... the glory of Christ was **in** Christ.
- The glory of God's grace in Christ completely dims by excess of brightness His glory in the law.

Kelly

***11 For if that which **fades away** was **with** glory, much more that which remains is **in** glory.***

- The law system and its glory is "**done away**" or "**annulled**" in Christ.
  - **katargeo abolish, put out of business cease, Romans 6**
- The glory introduced by Christ abides.
- Introduced by the Lord Jesus that which remains to eternity.
- The glory of that is so surpassing that it completely eclipses any glory that once existed in connection with the law, as **verse 10** points out.

**There is no reference here to the coming glory.  
Paul points emphatically to what the Spirit is  
ministering now.**

**The light which shines from Christ glorified speaks of  
the effectiveness of His sacrifice; the brighter the light,  
the clearer the proof that our every sin is cleansed  
away by His blood.**