

A Kingdom of Priests

Exodus 19:1-25

Proposal of God: Obey and you will have a special status. 1-6

- God's covenant with Abraham (Gen. 12,15,17) was unconditional but this "Sinaitic/Mosaic covenant" is conditional.
- Obedience to God will transform Israel into God's own treasured possession/a kingdom of priests/a holy nation.
This = special status before God with great responsibility.

Preparation to encounter God: Clean up and stay back. 7-15

- Before meeting the King of the universe, the people are given directions so as to be fully prepared and focused.
- God wants a close relationship with His people, but boundaries are set so the people don't get too close.

Presence of God: Don't get too close or it will be fatal. 16-27

- Meeting with God is terrifying, and God gives even more warnings about anybody getting too close lest they die.
- Even priests must consecrate themselves as all others.

See 1 Pt. 2:9,10, as Peter describes the church using terms from 19:5,6, Isa. 43:20. Israel is still God's chosen people with a future (Rom. 11), but we now fulfill their role.



Do you see yourself as God's holy people and as a kingdom of priests?

What does such a description mean for us?