

COVENANT AT SINAI

Exodus 19

Xvi

Sinaitic Covenant ended in failure

- fulfillment depended on complete obedience
Deut 27:26
- legal requirements were holy and good
Rom 7:12
- the Law was weak through the flesh
Rom 8:3
- the Law was doomed to fail
 - need for a new covenant to replace it

Xv

Sinaitic different from Abrahamic, Davidic, and New Covenants

- Sinaitic is conditional
 - curses of Sinaitic missing from others
 - Law was added because of transgressions
Gal 3:19
 - Sinaitic Covenant does not invalidate promises of the Abrahamic Covenant
Gal 3:17-18
- temporal and not eternal
Heb 8:13

Xi

Israel will be a holy nation

Ex 19:6

- unique nation, one of a kind, different from all others
- set apart (separated) from common use (profane) for God's exclusive use (possession)
- given great privileges and responsibilities
 - high moral and spiritual standards required
- general principle: Lev 11:44



Xiv

formation of the Sinaitic Covenant

- theophany on Mt. Sinai
Deut 33:2
- Yahweh's love for His people
Deut 33:3
 - giving of the Law
Deut 33:4
- covenant is ratified—God becomes their King
Deut 33:5; cf. Num 23:21
- Israel becomes His people
Ps 114:1-2

Xii

Covenant at Sinai is conditional

- continuance of theocratic kingdom is conditioned on obedience (Ex 19:5)
- obedience perpetuates Israel's mediatorial position as a "kingdom of priests" among the nations
 - the kingdom ceased when the people failed
 - 5 cycles of discipline
Lev 26; Deut 28
- not same as unconditional Abrahamic Covenant (Deut 5:2-3)
 - disobedience will not remove Israel's election as the chosen people

Xiii

Israel accepted the offer of the Covenant Ex 19:8

- their acceptance of the covenant pleased God
Deut 5:28
 - God knew they would not keep it
Deut 5:29
- easier to make pledges than to fulfill them