

The Forgotten Jesus Podcast

S4E3

A Marriage Ceremony On The Mountain - (Exodus 19)

Description – John the Baptist, the forerunner to the Messiah came on the scene talking about a coming King and Kingdom, but where did this idea of “Kingdom” come from? Join us today as we jump back to Moses to discover this Kingdom question.

Today we're talking about a marriage ceremony on a mountain, but it's not what you think. It's Mt. Sinai, so it's a little hot, and very dry. Not a scenic mountain top view.

We're continuing our talk on the Kingdom of Heaven.

John the Baptist's message was all about the coming Messiah, and the coming Kingdom.

He was preparing a people for the coming King & Kingdom.

Acts 1:3

³ After he had suffered, he also presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

Acts 28:30-31

³⁰ Paul stayed two whole years in his own rented house. And he welcomed all who visited him, ³¹ proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.

The book of Acts is about the advancement of the Kingdom of God. Both Paul and Jesus talk about the Kingdom.

Where did the Kingdom idea come from? Exodus 15

Redemption leads to a destination called responsibility. The question becomes, what am I responsible for? What am I supposed to do?

The marriage covenant idea is all through scripture. God is portrayed as the Groom, and his people or the church as His Bride

Isaiah 54:5

⁵ Indeed, your husband is your Maker, his name is the LORD of Armies, and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer; he is called the God of the whole earth.

Jeremiah 3:14 (NIV)

¹⁴ “Return, faithless people,” declares the LORD, “for I am your husband. I will choose you—one from a town and two from a clan—and bring you to Zion.

Jeremiah 31:31-32 (NIV)

³¹ “The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,” declares the LORD.

The whole book of Hosea is about God as a husband and how his bride has been unfaithful to him, yet He never gives up on them.

Exodus 19:14-15 (CSB)

¹⁴ Then Moses came down from the mountain to the people and consecrated them, and they washed their clothes. ¹⁵ He said to the people, “Be prepared by the third day. Do not have sexual relations with women.”

The people had to go and consecrate themselves before entering this marriage covenant with God.

Moses goes up on Mt. Sinai and spends 40 days there, Just like Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness. While he's there, God gives him the whole Mosaic law, all of the commands (613).

Walter Kaiser - Premier OT Scholar suggests that the 10 commandments are not new commands given, but a reminder of what's been taught going all the way back to Genesis.

1. The first, Genesis 35:2: ‘Get rid of the foreign gods.’
2. The second, Genesis 31:39: Laban to Jacob: ‘But why did you steal my gods?’
3. The third, Genesis 24:3: ‘I want you to swear by the Lord.’
4. The fourth, Genesis 2:3: ‘God blessed the seventh day and made it holy.’
5. The fifth, Genesis 27:41: ‘The days of mourning my father are near.’
6. The sixth, Genesis 4:9: ‘Where is your brother Abel?’
7. The seventh, Genesis 39:9: ‘How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?’
8. The eighth, Genesis 44:4-7: ‘Why have you stolen my silver cup?’
9. The ninth, Genesis 39:17: ‘[Joseph] came to me to make sport of me ... but ... he ran. ...’
10. The tenth, Genesis 12:18; 20:3: ‘You are as good as dead because of the woman you have taken; she is a married woman.’

From his book “Exodus: The Expositor's Bible Commentary”

<https://www.amazon.com/Exodus-Expositors-Commentary-Walter-Kaiser-ebook/dp/B01N4SW8HK/>

The 10 commandments divide all the law (all 613 laws) into 10 categories. The first 4 deal with our relationship with God, and the other 6 deal with our relationships with others.

We have a negative perspective of “the law.” Speed limit laws, rules, etc.

The laws that God gave to the people were not just conduct to live by; they were to be the parameters of a biblical covenant with God.

The 10 commandments are the terms and agreements of a relationship with God. They are the vows of the marriage ceremony, they are the fine print of the commands that we have to uphold to keep our end of the covenant.

So Moses comes down from the mountain with the law, and is the mediator between God and man. Paul says the same thing about Jesus in the New Testament, that Jesus is the final mediator between God and Man.

1 Timothy 2:5

⁵For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus,

Three types of people when Moses goes up the mountain

1. The inner circle of 3
2. The 12 pillars representing the 12 tribes (Ex. 24:4)
3. And 70 elders from the whole of the people of Israel

Exodus 24:4, 9-11

⁴And Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD. He rose early the next morning and set up an altar and twelve pillars for the twelve tribes of Israel at the base of the mountain.

⁹Then Moses went up with Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of Israel's elders, ¹⁰and they saw the God of Israel. Beneath his feet was something like a pavement made of lapis lazuli, as clear as the sky itself. ¹¹ c

Genesis 10 - The Jewish people see this as the descendants from Noah, representing all the people and people groups of the world, as everyone would have come from Noah.

There are 70 people groups listed here in Genesis 10.

Next week we'll look at what the actual marriage ceremony looked like. (Exodus 24)