

Sermon Notes

Exodus – The Revealing of God’s Glory and His Design for the Chosen

“The Consecration of the People” – Exodus 19:7-15

I. Introduction.

A. Awesome respect for God.

1. Experience in Russia.
2. Nearness or closeness of God – immanence.
 - a. John 15:15
 - b. Yet, watch out for the “come as you are” mindset of today.
3. The otherness or the sense of God removed and above – Transcendence.
 - a. Isaiah 40:21-26
 - b. Annie Dillard
4. God is both immanent and transcendent, but the latter has been expunged from most evangelical services.

B. The text.

1. Context – Exodus 19:1-6
2. Main text – Exodus 19:7-15
 - a. A covenant is about to be initiated.

II. Exposition

A. Verse 7.

1. “Elders summoned.” Their first appearance.

B. Verse 8.

1. Together – “in its unitedness.” But their oneness raises a question?

C. Verse 9.

1. Theophany of a thick cloud.
2. Hebrew term usage. – Ps. 97:2; Isaiah 6:4; Isaiah 45:15

D. Verse 10.

1. “Go” – an imperative.
2. “Consecrated” – From Qadash – to be h_____.

3. Washing of clothes symbolic of inward cleaning.

- a. “Washing” often precedes a solemn ritual
 1. Genesis 35:2; Joshua 3:5

E. Verse 11.

1. “Three days”
 - a. Note Abraham.
 1. There should be no spontaneity or I_____ in obeying God’s word.
2. “Come down” – an Old Testament idiom.

F. Verse 12.

1. Sinai becomes set apart.
2. There will be grave consequences for disobedience.

G. Verse 13.

1. Extreme form of negation.
2. Even mourners would be barred from the dead violators.

H. Verses 14-15.

1. Abstaining from sex.
 - a. John Calvin
 - b. New Testament: I Corinthians 7:5
2. Old Testament and Ancient Near East Treaty is to be initiated.
 - a. Parts.
 1. P_____
 2. P_____
 3. T_____ and O_____
 - a. Note I Kings 8:9b
 - b. Exodus 19 structure.

III. Points for Reflection.

- A. God’s transcendence restores the sense of the Creator’s otherness, separateness and eternal mystery.
- B. Spiritual intimacy with God requires careful attention to the disposition of our hearts.
- C. We all need a mediator.