

# "On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

# EXODUS 19

## Exodus 19

After the miraculous crossing of the Red Sea by the Israelites. Moses sang a song of praise to God for what He had done. It is still a favorite Psalm of God's people to this day. Miriam, Moses' sister sang, danced, and played instruments. The journey continued from the Red Sea toward Mt. Sinai. Water is always an issue in the desert. They found water, but it was bitter water, not clean or pure, so God performed a miracle and turned the bitter water "sweet" pure for drinking. As they traveled between Elim and Sinai the people murmured against the Man of God, Moses, that they were hungry. God began the divine process of giving them food, that he rained down beginning here and continued for 40 years until they crossed into the promised land (see Joshua 5:12). God miraculously gave them water throughout their journey even though they rebelled and complained from beginning to end.

Chapter 19 brings us to Mt. Sinai and God making a formal covenant with the people. This covenant was different than the covenant made with Abraham. That was an unconditional covenant, as later with King David. This was

a covenant that had conditions and followed the pattern of Kings and Sovereigns of this period in human history. It is called a "Suzerain" treaty/covenant. A "Suzerain" is a powerful king or ruler. The treaty would have had the following elements: 1) identification of the King and the qualifications for offering the treaty, 2) grounds for the treaty, based upon relationship and history of the goodness of the Sovereign toward the subjects, 3) the requirement of loyalty of the Suzerain, 4) the stipulations of conduct and behavior of the vassal or people who would serve the Suzerain, 5) the blessings or cursings associated with obedience or disobedience of the vassal, 6) instructions on where the treaty/covenant would be kept in a safe place, designated by the Suzerain. **All of these are present in the Mosaic Covenant.**

### Prayer and Action Steps

*Meeting God at Mt. Sinai is an eye opener for the people of God, as they saw the awesomeness of the God who desired to bless them. God is awesome. Pause and reflect on who He is.*

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Scripture \_\_\_\_\_

- *Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.*
- *Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.*
- *Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.*

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

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Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions? \_\_\_\_\_

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Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

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Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible? \_\_\_\_\_

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