

Study Guide

Suggested Prayer before beginning:

Heavenly Father, You are the light of the world, and I am a follower of your light. I know how desperately the darkness of this world needs Your light and my reflection of it. I confess and ask for your forgiveness for the times I have fallen short of being who You desire me to be. Please guide me as I study the Scriptures this week and learn more about You and what Your will is for me. Help me to use my actions, words, and thoughts – all of me – to reflect You!
As we begin 2021, be with the women of Geneva Bible Study and give us joy that does not depend on current outside circumstances but on Your filling us up within! Thank you for Your perfect love and ultimate sacrifice through Your son Jesus. Amen.

Read through **Exodus 24**. Then, **reflect** upon what you read as you consider the study questions.

1. After receiving the detailed covenant conditions from God (**Exodus 21-23**), Moses returns and tells the people “all the Lord’s words and laws.”. How do the people of Israel respond to hearing the conditions of the covenant the Lord is making with them (**verse 3**)?
2. In **verse 4**, Moses began preparations for a ceremony to seal the covenant. He built an altar to indicate the Lord’s presence in the ceremony and set up 12 stone pillars. What did the pillars represent?
3. As part of the ceremony, “fellowship offerings” expressed the people’s fellowship with the Lord and included a celebratory common meal to honor the Lord. For the “burnt offering” (**verse 5**), the bulls were burned entirely upon the altar; nothing was left. This represented total dedication to the Lord. From **Romans 12:1-2** what does our total dedication to the Lord look like?
4. In **verses 6-8**, the sprinkling of the blood on the altar and on the people points to the involvement of two parties in the covenant: God and the people of Israel.

First, Moses sprinkled some of the blood on the altar, signifying that the people’s sins were forgiven by God’s acceptance of the offering. Then, he read the Book of the Covenant a second time and the people repeated their promise to obey. Lastly, Moses sprinkled the blood on all of the people as a sign of their commitment and responsibility to keep covenant with God.

(questions 4a and 4b continued on the next page)

a) Why is blood considered so vital in establishing peace between God and His people?
Read **Hebrews 9:22**.

b) Israel would fail miserably (and almost immediately) to keep covenant with God. Truly, we would fare no better! As New Testament Christians, what does the blood sprinkled by Moses represent for us? Consider the following verses:

Hebrews 9:28

Matthew 26:27-28

Ephesians 1:7

1 John 2:2

5. **Verses 9-11** describe the meal that the leaders of Israel experienced in the presence of God. This ceremonial meal sealed God's covenant with Israel. What is happening? What parts of this remarkable scene stand out to you?
6. God had spoken His commands and laws to Moses, and Moses had spoken them to the people. What significance do you see in the fact that *God Himself* wrote His laws and commands on the tablets of stone and gave them to Moses for the instruction of the Israelites (**verse 12**)?