

April 25–May 1  
Exodus 24; 31–34  
“My Presence Shall Go With Thee”



# Establishing the Fullness of the Gospel

Exd 24:3-4,7-8

What ordinance does Moses perform to represent the covenant the people make?

Does this ordinance remind you of one we have the opportunity regularly participate in?



## Richard Lloyd Anderson

"[There are] profound contacts between the divine covenant given at Sinai and the new covenant instituted in the Upper Room.... The first is the powerful repetition of Moses' cry, 'Behold the blood of the covenant.'... [Then] we hear the Savior tersely telling the full meaning of Moses' words as he raised the cup: 'For this is my blood of the new [covenant], which is shed for many for the remission of sins' (Matt 26:28)."

("The Restoration of the Sacrament" Ensign, Feb. 1992)

# Establishing the Fullness of the Gospel

Exd 24:9-11

What does it tell us about the seventy elders that they were able to endure the presence of the Lord

## John Taylor

"The Lord at that time desired to make of Israel a great nation, a kingdom of priests. They had the Gospel preached unto them in the wilderness.... It was the design of the Almighty to lead them into the presence of God, that they might see him as Moses did, and as the seventy Elders of Israel did, that they might converse with him and obtain intelligence from him, and be under his special guidance and direction; but they could not endure the Gospel." (JD, 14:356)



# Establishing the Fullness of the Gospel

Exd 24:12,18

# The Golden Calf

Exd 32:1-4

What did the Israelites do when Moses was gone from them for just 40 days?

## John Taylor

“Moses succeeded in leading seventy of the elders of Israel to the presence of God; he would have led all Israel into his presence, but they would not be led; they turned to idolatry, to evil and corruption, and hence they became disobedient and unmanageable. And when the Lord spake to them they became terrified and said, ‘Let not God speak unto us, lest we die’ (Exd 20:19). God wants to bring us near to him, for this purpose he has introduced the Gospel with all its ordinances.” (JD, 21:53)



# The Golden Calf

Exd 32:7,10-14

What arguments does Mose make to keep the Israelites from the Lord's destruction?

## Lorenzo Snow

“It will be remembered that the Lord became angry with the Israelites, and declared to Moses that he would destroy them, and he would take Moses and make of him a great people, and would bestow upon him and his posterity what he had promised to Israel. But this great leader and lawgiver, faithful to his trust, stood in the gap and there plead with the Lord on behalf of his people; by the power that he could exercise and did exercise, he was the means of saving the people from threatened destruction. How noble and glorious Moses must have appeared in the eyes of the Lord, and what a source of satisfaction it must have been to him to know that his chosen people, in their obstinate and ignorant condition, had such a man at their head.” (JD, 23:189)

# Fullness of the Gospel is Taken Away

Exd 32:15-16,19

Why does Moses break the tablets that contain the fullness of the gospel



## John Taylor

"The Lord at that time desired to make of Israel a great nation, a kingdom of priests. They had the Gospel preached unto them in the wilderness.... It was the design of the Almighty to lead them into the presence of God, that they might see him as Moses did, and as the seventy Elders of Israel did, that they might converse with him and obtain intelligence from him, and be under his special guidance and direction; but they could not endure the Gospel." (JD, 14:356)

# Fullness of the Gospel is Taken Away

Exd 32:26

## George Albert Smith

“I have many times repeated what my grandfather said.... In advising his family he said, ‘There is a line of demarcation, well defined. On one side of the line is the Lord's territory. On the other side of the line is the devil's territory.’ And he said, ‘If you will stay on the Lord's side of the line, you are perfectly safe, because the adversary of all righteousness cannot cross that line.’

“What does that mean? It means to me that those who are living righteous lives, keeping all of the commandments of our Heavenly Father are perfectly safe, but not those who trifle with his advice and counsel.” (CR, Oct. 1949)



# Fullness of the Gospel is Taken Away

Exd 32:30-32

What was Moses willing to put on the line for the sake of the Israelites?

## Charles A. Callis

“Unparalleled love, the spirit of the holy Priesthood, humility, meekness with power, exemplifying the love of the Lord Jesus Christ! He didn't even want to survive the people. If they were eliminated, if the punishment of God destroyed them, he, too, was willing that his name, yea, his life, be blotted out with the people he loved and led.... As he stood upon the mount, pleading with God for the Israelites, he reached sublime heights; he touched divinity!

“That is the spirit that should characterize the holy Priesthood. If we work in humility, become little in our own sight, more than we are now, and seek the good of others I testify to you that there will be added power to our labors, and sinners will be brought unto Him.” (CR, April 1942)

# Fullness of the Gospel is Taken Away

Exd 33:2-3,15

Why does the Lord feel that He can no longer be with and guide the Israelites?

Why do you think that Moses ask that the Israelites not go to the promised land if the Lord will not go before them?



## John Taylor

“It is not in the wisdom of this man or the intelligence of the other, but it is the wisdom and guidance of God, and by his sustaining hand, that this whole people are led forward, and that this kingdom has an existence upon the earth. For my part, I would say today as Moses did on a certain occasion, when God said he would not go up with the children of Israel because they were rebellious people, ‘If thy presence go not with us, carry us not up hence;’ or, in other words, I want nothing to do with so great an undertaking as the leading forth of this people without the Lord's assistance. I would say today, if God be not with us, if we are not sustained by the almighty power of Jehovah, if his guiding and protecting hand be not over us, I want nothing to do with it. But he is with us, and we know it.” (JD, 19:122)

## Jeffrey R. Holland

“No eternal learning can take place without that quickening of the Spirit from heaven. So, parents, teachers, and leaders, we must face our tasks the way Moses faced the promised land. Knowing he could not succeed any other way, Moses said to Jehovah, ‘If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence.’

“Our members really want... to be nourished by the good word of God to be strengthened by the powers of heaven. Those of us who are called upon to speak or teach or lead have an obligation to help provide that, as best we possibly can. We can only do that if we ourselves are striving to know God, if we ourselves are continually seeking the light of His Only Begotten Son.”  
(CR, April 1998)



# Fullness of the Gospel is Taken Away

Exd 33:7-11

Why do you think Moses moved the tabernacle out, away from the Israelite camp?



## L. Tom Perry

"Because of the disobedience of the children of Israel, 'Moses took the tabernacle [out of their midst], and pitched it without the camp.'

"Now their centerpiece, the tabernacle, was away from them. They could no longer be guided and protected by its presence. Now only the faithful were allowed to come to the tabernacle. One thing the Lord would not tolerate was the worship of other gods. Because of their many years of captivity in Egypt, this was challenging to the children of Israel." (CR, Oct. 2003)

# Fullness of the Gospel is Taken Away

## Exd 33:18-20

JST Exd 33:20

20 And he said unto Moses, Thou canst not see my face at this time, lest mine anger be kindled against thee also and I destroy thee and thy people; for there shall no man among them see me at this time and live, for they are exceeding sinful. And no sinful man hath at any time, neither shall there be any sinful man at any time, that shall see my face and live.

## Mark E. Petersen

“The Lord desires that mankind should worship him intelligently, not as some incomprehensible being, but as their loving Father in heaven.

“To accomplish this, God revealed himself to men from time to time so that they could see him and hear him and know him. He revealed himself personally, actually appearing to his prophets, and he talked with them face to face, even as a man ‘speaketh to his friend’.” (CR, Oct. 1962)



# The Law of Moses

JST Exd 34:1

What does He mean by, "my holy order... shall not go before them"?

# The Law of Moses

JST Exd 34:2

What is the consequences of only being giving the basic, carnal commandments in the law?

# The Law of Moses

Mosiah 13:29-31

29 And now I say unto you that it was expedient that there should be a law given to the children of Israel, yea, even a very strict law; for they were a stiffnecked people, quick to do iniquity, and slow to remember the Lord their God;

30 Therefore there was a law given them, yea, a law of performances and of ordinances, a law which they were to observe strictly from day to day, to keep them in remembrance of God and their duty towards him.

31 But behold, I say unto you, that all these things were types of things to come.



# The Law of Moses

JST Exd 34:4-10

## Keith B. McMullin

"The lesser portion of the gospel encompasses vital, saving truths and rests on the cornerstones of obedience and sacrifice. These truths school men and women, boys and girls in the fundamentals of righteousness. They consist of repentance, baptism, and observance of the law of carnal commandments unto the remission of sins. Carnal commandments are those that enable us to overcome the lusts, passions, and desires of our natural, or mortal, bodies and minds. Principal among these are the Ten Commandments. This lesser portion of the gospel will nourish those who are new in the Church, lead back those who have strayed, help young people recognize and overcome the temptations and deceptions of the world. Without this preparation, the fulness of gospel blessings cannot be realized or enjoyed.

"The responsibility for administering this preparatory portion of the gospel is entrusted to the Aaronic Priesthood." (CR, Oct. 1997)

Next Week:

May 2–8

Exodus 35–40; Leviticus 1; 16; 19

“Holiness to the Lord”

