

A dramatic scene of Mount Sinai with lightning and a large crowd of people in the foreground. The title text is overlaid on the image.

The Covenant Code Accepted Exodus 24

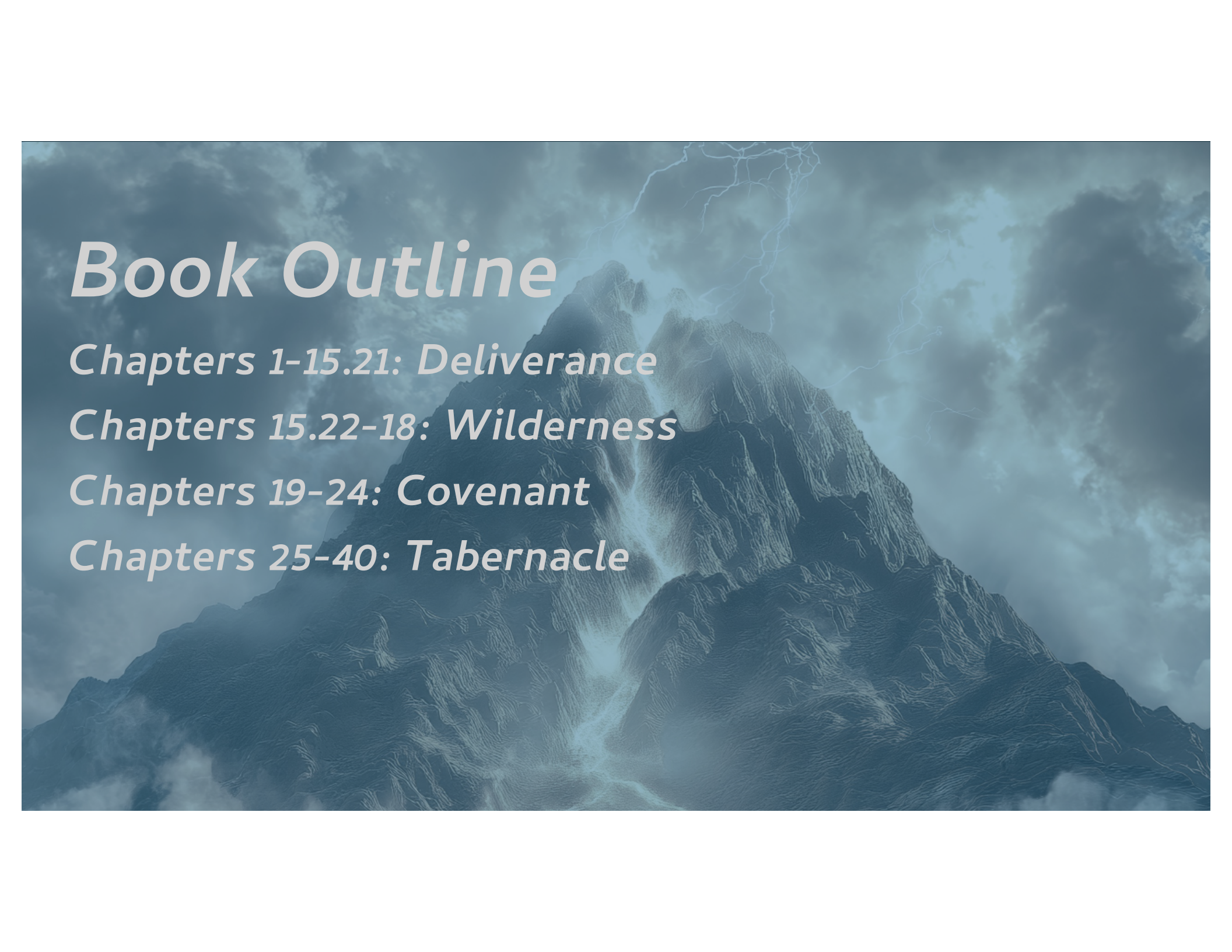
Ambassadors Sunday School

Jordan Dees



Review

Book Theme: Redemption



Book Outline

Chapters 1-15.21: Deliverance

Chapters 15.22-18: Wilderness

Chapters 19-24: Covenant

Chapters 25-40: Tabernacle



The Covenant Code

The basic laws that guide the behavior of God's covenant people, including laws on:

- *Servants*
- *Injuries to animals and people*
- *Social and religious requirements*
- *Instructions to obey God during and after the conquest of the Promised Land*

Understanding the Covenant Code

The Six Parts to the Suzerain Treaty:

- 1. Preamble: Identification of the Parties*
- 2. Prologue: The Suzerain and the People*
- 3. Stipulations: Obligations of the People*
- 4. List of Witnesses to the Treaty*
- 5. Document Clauses of the Treaty*
- 6. Sanctions: Blessings/Curses to Encourage Obedience*



Understanding the Covenant Code

Only four of the six covenant ingredients are found in Exodus, mainly and what is usually called the covenant code. This is because Exodus is only the first portion of the full covenant that continues on in Leviticus and receive supplemental stipulations in Numbers.

Douglas K. Stewart.



Passage Outline

A Break to Ratify the Covenant Code (1-2)

The Covenant Code Announced and Accepted by the People (3-8)

The Covenant Code Ratified by a Leadership Meal (9-11)

Moses Prepares for Additional Explanation of the Covenant Code (12-18)

The background image is a dramatic, monochromatic blue-toned illustration of Mount Sinai. The mountain is jagged and rocky, with a bright, glowing path leading up its center. Several bright lightning bolts strike the sky above the mountain. In the foreground, a large crowd of people, seen from behind, is gathered on a rocky plain, looking towards the mountain. The overall atmosphere is one of awe and divine presence.

A Break to Ratify the Covenant Code (1-2)

God calls Moses to come

Nadab and Abihu

Seventy elders of Israel

Moses shall draw near to the Lord

The background image is a dramatic, monochromatic blue-toned scene. It depicts Mount Sinai with a powerful lightning bolt striking its peak. In the foreground, a large crowd of people is seen from behind, looking towards the mountain. The overall atmosphere is one of awe and divine presence.

The Covenant Code Announced and Accepted by the People (3-8)

The verbal announcement of the Covenant Code

The people's response to the Covenant Code

The young men and the sacrifice

The written Covenant Code read and accepted by the people

The sprinkling of the people



The Covenant Code Ratified by a Leadership Meal (9-11)

In the ancient biblical world, covenants were normally concluded with a special covenant meal in which animals were symbolically cut in half (symbolizing the shared responsibility of the two parties as well as the severity of the penalty for breaking the covenant), then the parties to the covenant walked between the pieces, and then the meal was eaten together as a sign of friendship and alliance. God's covenant with Israel, as represented through the now-completed Covenant Code, involved God as one party and the people as the other.

Douglas K. Stuart

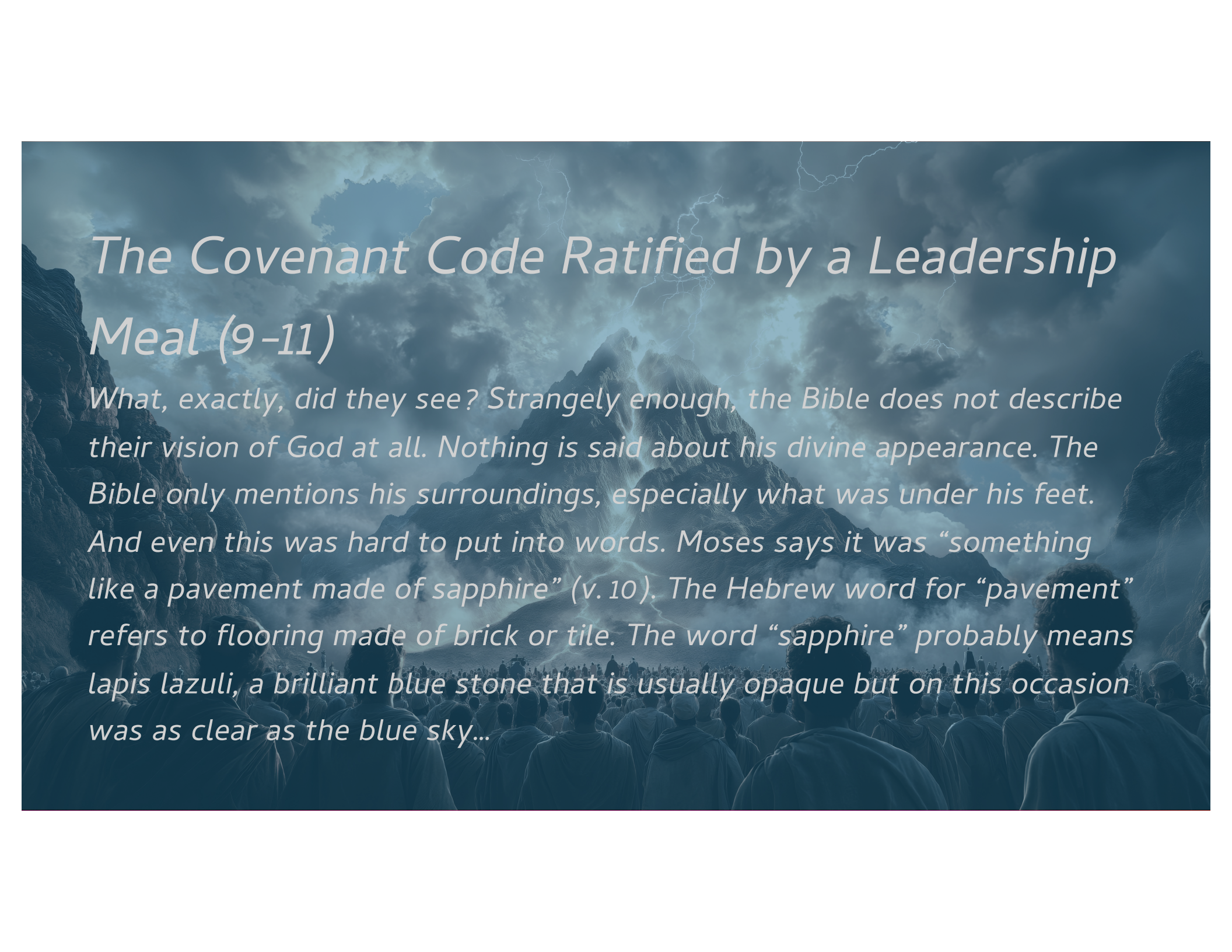
The background image is a dramatic, monochromatic blue-toned illustration of Mount Sinai. The mountain is jagged and rocky, with bright white lightning bolts striking its peaks and cascading down its slopes. The sky is filled with dark, swirling clouds. In the foreground, a large crowd of people, seen from behind, is gathered on a rocky plain, looking towards the mountain. The overall mood is awe-inspiring and divine.

The Covenant Code Ratified by a Leadership

Meal (9-11)

They saw the God of Israel

A pavement of sapphire



The Covenant Code Ratified by a Leadership Meal (9-11)

What, exactly, did they see? Strangely enough, the Bible does not describe their vision of God at all. Nothing is said about his divine appearance. The Bible only mentions his surroundings, especially what was under his feet. And even this was hard to put into words. Moses says it was “something like a pavement made of sapphire” (v. 10). The Hebrew word for “pavement” refers to flooring made of brick or tile. The word “sapphire” probably means lapis lazuli, a brilliant blue stone that is usually opaque but on this occasion was as clear as the blue sky...



The Covenant Code Ratified by a Leadership Meal (9-11)

Why doesn't the Bible say more about what God looked like? Maybe because the elders never looked much higher than the bottom of God's feet! They seem to have become most intimately acquainted with the floor, which suggests that they fell on their faces to worship. They took one look at God and immediately they lowered their gaze. As John Durham explains it, "the group was not given permission to lift their faces toward God and so could describe only what they actually did see, the 'pavement' beneath him, before which they were prostrate in reverential awe." - Philip Graham Ryken



Moses Prepares for Additional Explanation of the Covenant Code (12-18)

Moses and Joshua

Moses sets in order leadership for the people

Moses goes back up the mountain



***Application** - Because of the work of Christ, we can now each draw near to God without a mediator.*

We may search from end to end of the legal ritual, and not find those two precious words, “drawn nigh.” Ah, no; such words could never be heard from the top of Sinai, nor from amid the shadows of the law. They could only be uttered at heaven’s side of the empty tomb of Jesus, where the blood of the cross opened a perfectly cloudless prospect to the vision of faith.

C.K. Mackintosh

*Application - We must be faithful to listen to
and obey the Word of the Lord*

*How well were it if people would but be always in the same good
mind that sometimes they seem to be in! Many consent to the law,
and yet do not live up to it; they have nothing to except against it,
and yet will not persuade themselves to be ruled by it.*

Matthew Henry



Application - We must worship God now and anticipate when we will see Him face to face.

Jesus came down so that one day we could be lifted up. What happened to Moses is a picture of what will happen to everyone who comes to God through faith in Jesus Christ. Glory is in our destiny. The Bible says, "Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him" (Rev. 1:7a). It also says, "we will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever" (1 Thess. 4:17). We will go farther up and farther in. Like Moses, we will be surrounded by the radiance of God's glory.

Philip Graham Ryken

