



Chapter 3: A New Hope

Review Questions

1. Describe the parallels between the fall of Adam and the fall of Noah. P. 44

- the consumption of fruit (here-grapes, as wine)
- nakedness
- shame
- curse

Additional notes:

2. What are the three promises that God made to Abram? P. 46

1. A great nation
2. A great name
3. A blessing to everyone.

Additional notes:

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3. How is the sacrifice of Isaac a “Pre-Ja Vu“ of Jesus’s sacrifice? Discuss the parallels. P. 54

Issac is God’s only begotten son - like Christ is God’s only begotten son.

He carries the wood of his own sacrifice up a hill - like Christ carried the wood of His cross up the hill to be crucified.

He went to be sacrificed by his father to God - Christ’s death on the cross was a sacrifice to his father for our sins.

Additional notes:

4. Why is it important for Jews to make their animal sacrifices in the same place that Isaac was going to be sacrificed? P. 59

The killing of animals by itself, could not have meant that much to God. The sacrifices must have gotten their power from somewhere else: from the near-sacrifice of Isaac. Since Isaac’s near-sacrifice took place on the very site of the future temple, some rabbis taught that the animal sacrifices were a kind of reminder or re-presentation of the one and only, really powerful sacrifice of Isaac.

Additional notes:



Chapter Three Discussion Questions

1. Can you recall a time when you prayed for something that God did not give you on your time frame?

Did you wait for his answer or did you take matters into your own hands?

2. Discuss a time when God asked you to sacrifice something.

Did you obey? What was the consequence?

Additional notes:



Chapter 4: God's laws, Israel's flaws

Review Questions

1. How are the plagues that were sent by God related to the Egyptian gods? P. 67-68

Hapi, the Nile God - all the water of the Nile turns to blood.

Hekhet, the frog goddess of fertility - plague of frogs.

Amon-Re, the almighty sun god gets locked in the dark for 3 days.

Finally, it is proven that Pharaoh himself is no god, as he is unable to save his own son's life in the final plague.

Additional notes:

2. How is Israel a new Adam? P. 69

God told Pharaoh, "Israel is my First-Born son" (Exodus 4:22), so it seems God's purpose in the Sinai covenant is to adopt Israel formally into that *filial relationship*.

God makes a striking promise to Israel just before he appears in all his fearsome glory in Sinai to give them the Ten Commandments. God says "If you will obey my voice and keep my covenant... You shall be to me a royal priesthood and a holy nation"(Exodus 19:5-6). The picture is becoming clearer. As a group, the Israelites are a new Adam. God is adopting them into sonship and giving them a royal (kingly) and priestly status.

Additional notes:

3. How did the golden calf incident change the relationship between God and Israel? P. 76

After the golden calf incident, things are not the same. The covenant has been damaged. Although God renews the covenant, it's not as good as it was before. We are going to call this "remake" of the Mosaic covenant "Second Sinai". When God re-makes a covenant with Israel, he includes a great many more laws the second time around – For example, the entire book of Leviticus.

Additional notes:

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4. Why did it take Israel 40 years to enter the promised land? P. 78

The walk from Mount Sinai to the promised land should have been a matter of days – weeks at most. Yet they ended up wandering in the desert for 40 years. Why? Because of more rebellions. They complain about everything– the food, the water, and how Moses is running things. There are at least nine rebellions against God recounted in the book of Numbers. The impression one gets is that the whole 40 years of wandering was one long revolt.

Additional notes:

5. Why were the laws in Deuteronomy necessary? Give examples. P. 81-82

The word Deuteronomy means “second law”. Deuteronomy takes place 40 years after the Exodus. Sinai events occurred on or near the famous mountain; Deuteronomy takes place in the land of Moab, a flat area just outside land of Israel to the East.

Moses gives them the laws of the covenant again, this time adding more laws, including some that were not so great. Some of the laws of Moses gives in Deuteronomy weren't Gods best laws but were given because of the hardness of hearts of the Israelites.

Ex: divorce & warfare

Additional notes:



Chapter Four Discussion Questions

1. God identified herself to Moses and the burning bush by disclosing his name: YHWH, which means “I am who I am”. Do you know the meaning of your name? How does this meaning reflect your identity?

2. The Israelites adopted many of the idolatrous customs of Egyptian culture. What are the current golden calves of our modern culture? What are some idols that Christian believers worship, knowingly or unknowingly?