
RELATED SCRIPTURES

Deuteronomy 32:9–11 | Hebrews 9:15 | 1 Peter 2:9

STUDY FOR SERMON FROM 02.02.25

SUMMARY

The Lord delivered his people from Egypt and brought them to the mountain at Sinai. The dialog that subsequently transpires between the Lord and the intermediary to God's people, Moses, sets the course for the remainder of the Old Testament and even human history. The Lord speaks of the past, present, and future as he spells out the covenant between him and his people. First, God reiterates what he did to Egypt and delivered his people from their oppression (v. 4a). Next, the Lord lifted them on eagles' wings, emphasizing his protection of them and nurturing care. Though the Lord delivered Israel, they remained vulnerable, yet the Lord provided them daily sustenance and protection. Lastly, the Lord brings his people near to his holy mountain so they may worship the Lord in his majesty. These actions show us that the exodus wasn't merely about providing God's people safe passage from Egypt or giving them salvation; it was about getting Israel close to God. Salvation is never an end in itself. There is always something greater: God himself and our fellowship with him; this is his objective for all his people. In light of all God's covenant-keeping actions, the Lord insists that his people "obey my voice and keep my covenant." The Lord insists upon obedience—that his people should be a "kingdom of priests and a holy nation." Though his people would struggle mightily to keep the terms of the covenant, it would be through them that the Lord would provide a substitute in Jesus, who would perfectly keep the covenant on their behalf. And now, as Christian people who Christ has justified, we worship God as "a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession that [we] may proclaim the excellencies of him who called [us] out of darkness into his marvelous light" (1 Peter 2:9). These words from Peter echo the words of Exodus 19:6. We have been delivered, lifted up, and brought close to him.

GROUP QUESTIONS

Share something that surprises, encourages, or troubles you from the sermon or your direct reading of Exodus 19:1–9a.

How have you been delivered, lifted up, and brought near by God?

Though Jesus has completely fulfilled the requirement of perfect obedience on our behalf, why must we be concerned about obedience to God?

If there's one thing Jesus would want you to walk away believing and receiving as a result of this portion of Scripture, what is that thing?

CLOSE IN PRAYER

As you pray, be sure to include today's themes in what you bring before God.