

## The Law Covenant at Mt. Sinai

If you follow my decrees and are careful to obey my commands ... I will walk among you and be your God, and you will be my people.—Leviticus 26:3,12

**T**he Israelites looked to Moses for guidance. They complained to him when they were not pleased even though they found that God's blessings always came through him. Moses was their mediator. This is one who brings about friendly relations between two parties that do not agree. Moses explained God's will to the people and begged God's forgiveness when they sinned against his laws.

God gave the Israelites many rules or laws; the most important ones are called the Ten Commandments. Moses went up to Mt. Sinai where God explained the law to him. Some were rules of health: what foods to eat, what to do when there was sickness; others told how to conduct business fairly. And, most importantly, the law taught the people how to deal with God and with each other. All the people agreed: "We will do everything the LORD has said" (Exodus 19:8).

The law was perfect and the Israelites, being imperfect, could not keep it. God knew this but he allowed them to try as it would help them realize their need for a Savior. One of God's greatest mercies and kindnesses is his promise that in the kingdom the Israelites will be resurrected and he will make a new covenant with them. It will be easier for them to keep this New Covenant and, if they do so, they will live forever on earth.

Moses was the mediator between God and the Israelites in the

wilderness which pictures The Christ (Christ and his church) as mediator between God and mankind in the Millennial age.

**The Ten Commandments** (Exodus 20:3-17):

1. You shall have no other gods before me.
2. You shall not make any graven image or idol to worship.
3. You shall not use the name of the LORD God irreverently.
4. Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy.
5. Honor your father and your mother.
6. You shall not kill.
7. You shall not be unfaithful to your husband or your wife.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not tell lies about other people.
10. You shall not have a strong desire for what belongs to others.



The Ten Commandments were given by God to Moses on Mount Sinai.