

BEHOLD THE LAMB



A Journey Through the Sanctuary

The Sanctuary

The Sanctuary in heaven is the very center of Christ's work in behalf of men. It concerns every living soul upon the earth. It opens to view the *plan of redemption*, bringing us down to the very close of time, and revealing the triumphant issue of the contest between righteousness and sin. It is of the *utmost importance* that all should thoroughly investigate these subjects, and be able to give the hope that is in them.

It opens to view a complete *system of truth*, connected and harmonious, perfectly calculated to explain the past, the present, and establish faith in a certain glorious future.

INTRODUCTION

“Let them make me a sanctuary that I may dwell among them.

Ex. 25:8

God Himself gave to Moses the plan of the sanctuary, it's size and form, the material to be used, and every article of furniture which it was to contain. “The holy places made with hands” were to be “figures of the true,” “Patterns of things in the heavens.”

Heb. 9:23,24

This is more than a presentation, it is a study of the plan of salvation that leads to eternal life. A study that points to the “Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world.” John

1:29

“And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.



And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground: and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.” Ex. 14:21-22



The God of heaven delivered the vast hosts of Israel from the mighty armies of Egypt. His mighty hand rolled back the waters of the Red Sea that stood like a wall, and the people of God were delivered from their enemies.

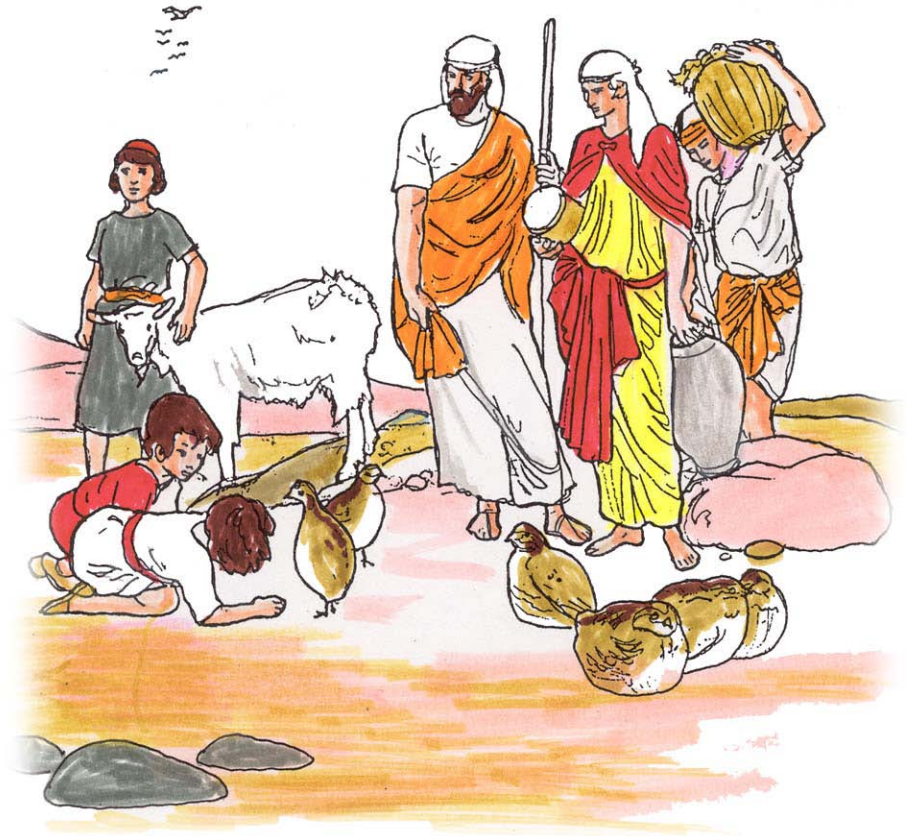


On the fifteenth day of the second month, after leaving Egypt, the Israelites began to doubt that God was leading them and murmured against Moses and Aaron. They Said, “Would to god we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh-pots, and when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger” Ex.16:3

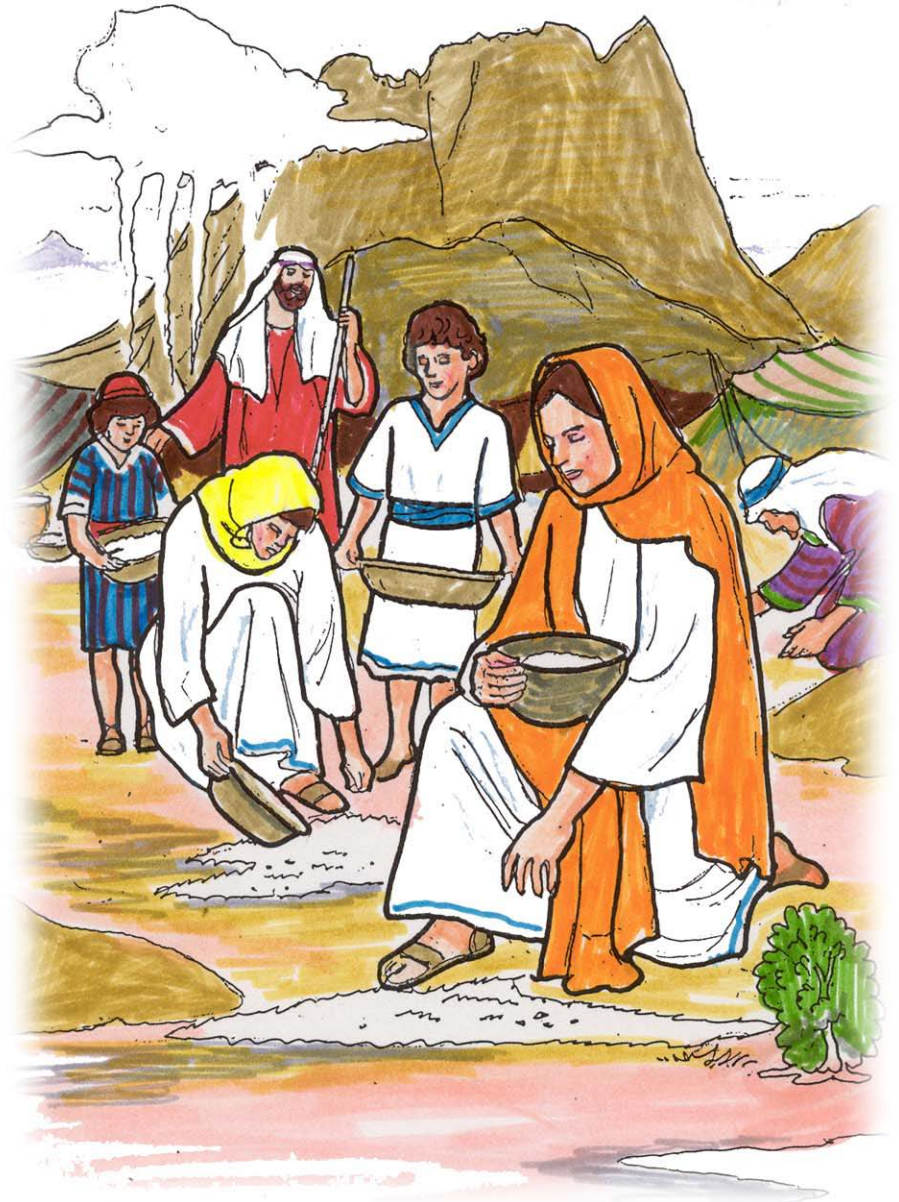


Moses told the people that their wants would be supplied. “**The LORD** shall give you in the evening flesh to eat, and in the morning bread to the full.”

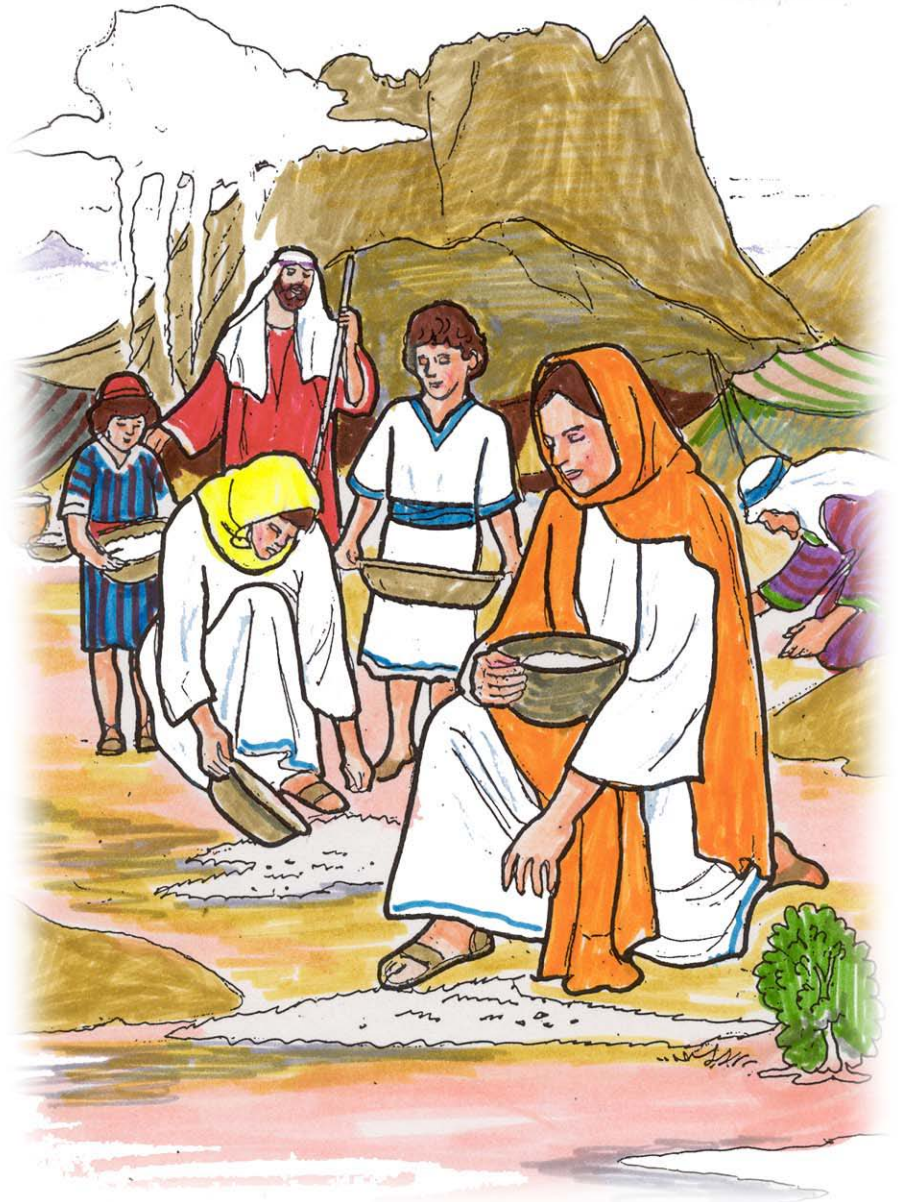
Ex. 16:8 At nightfall the camp was surrounded by vast flocks of quail, enough for everyone. In the morning there lay upon the ground manna, the bread from heaven.



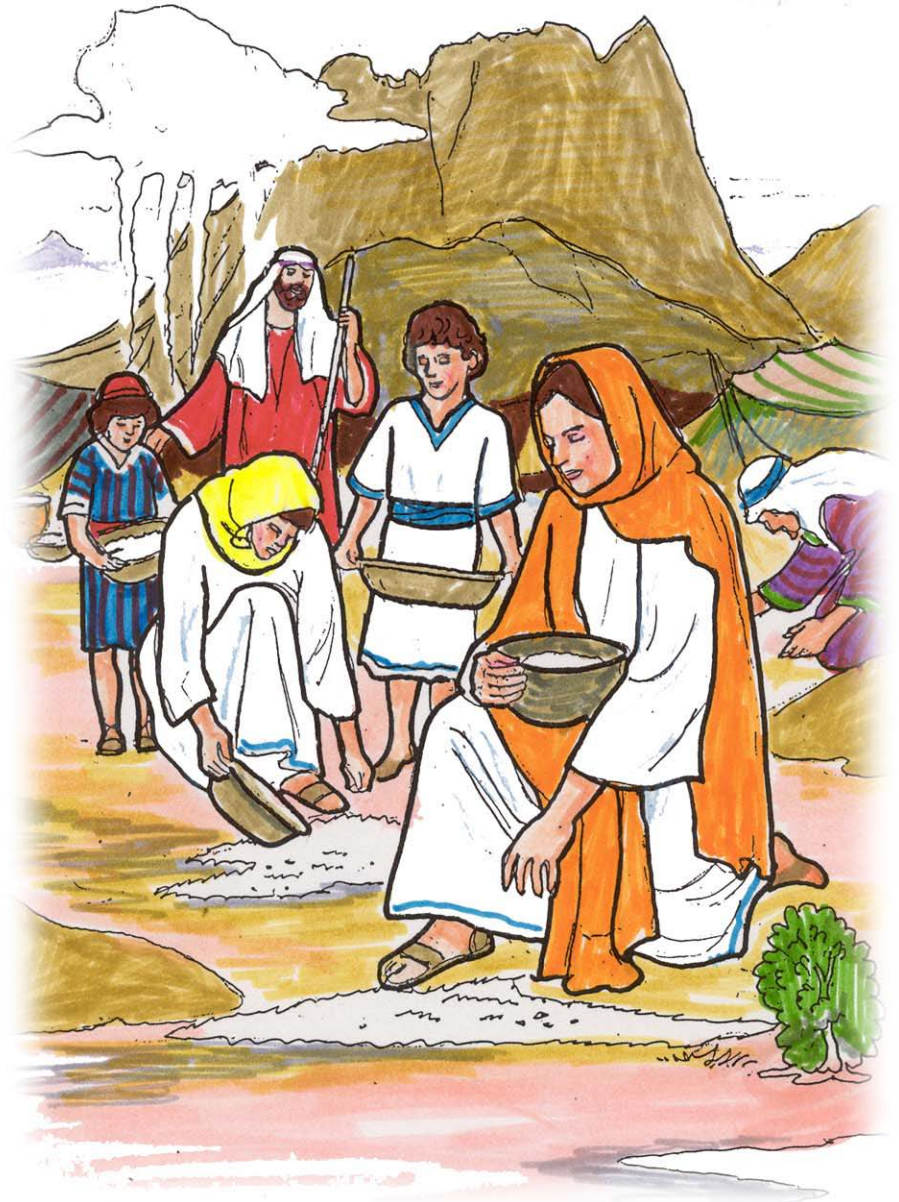
When the Israelites came into the wilderness they wondered how all the people and the flocks and herds would be fed. God told Moses, “I will rain bread from heaven for you.”
Ex. 16:4



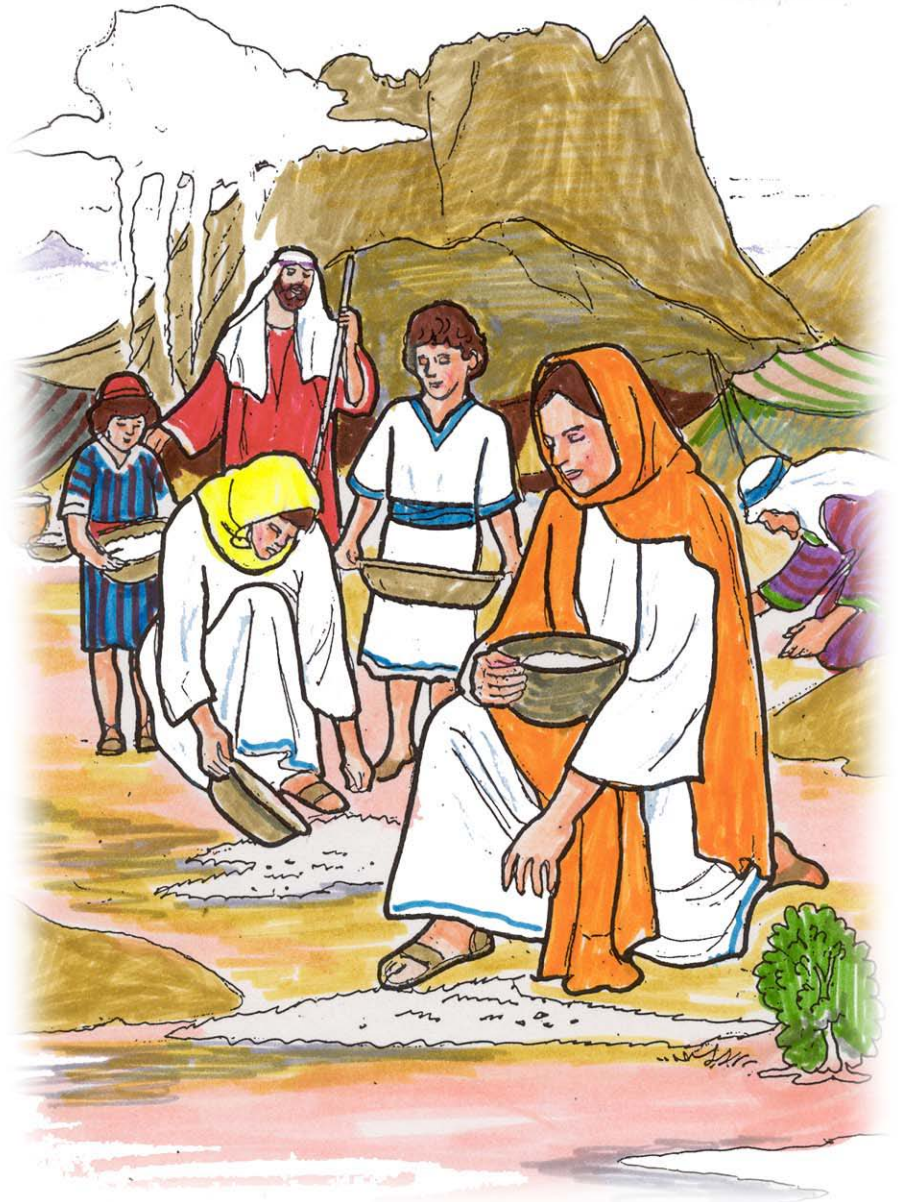
Directions were given to the people to gather a daily supply of manna with a double amount on the sixth day, so the sacred observance of the Sabbath might be maintained.



The manna fell during the night and in the morning there lay on the ground a small round thing, as small as hoer frost. “It was like coriander seed, white.” Ex 16:31 The people called it manna. Moses said, “This is the bread which the LORD hath given you to eat.” Ex 16:15



Every week during their long journey in the wilderness, a double amount of manna fell on the sixth day and none on the seventh. The portion needed on the Sabbath was preserved sweet and pure. If it were kept over at any other time it became unfit for use.



The people ground the manna in mills, or beat it in a mortar, and baked it in pans, and made cakes of it. “And the taste of it was like wafers made with honey.” Ex. 16:31

“The children of Israel did eat manna forty years until they came to a land inhabited; they did eat manna, until they came unto the borders of the land of Canaan.” Ex.16:35

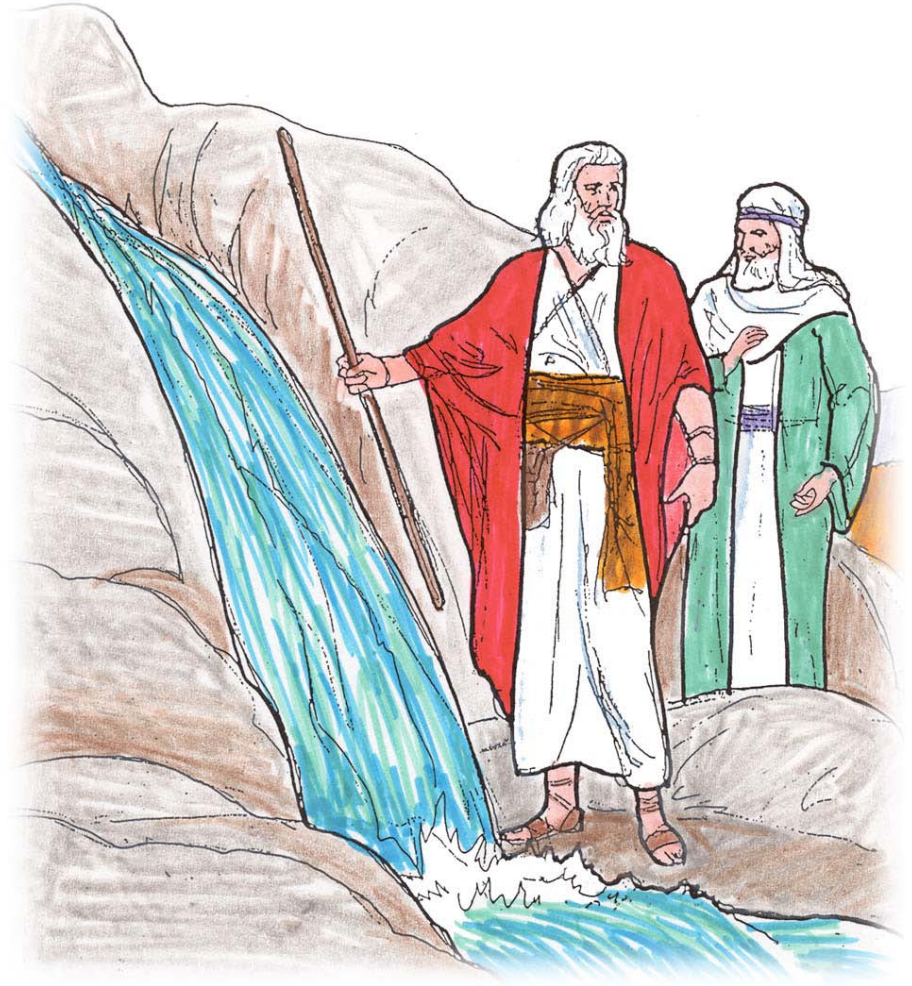


In the wilderness, when all means of sustenance failed, God Sent His people manna from heaven; and a sufficient and constant supply was given. This provision was to teach them that while they trusted in God, and walked in His ways, He would not forsake them.



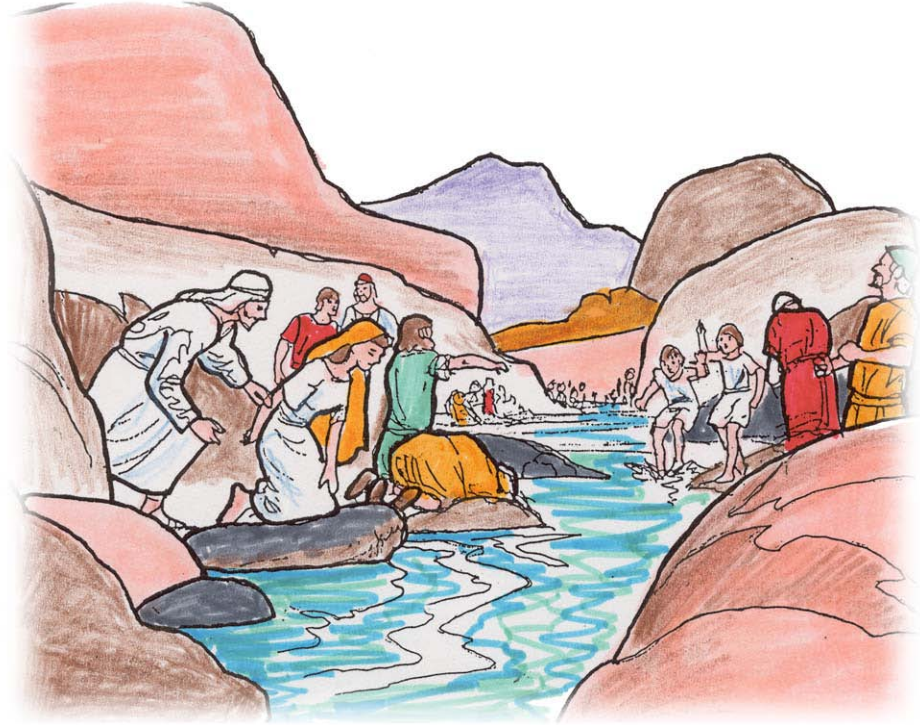
During all the wanderings of Israel in the desert, wherever the need existed, they were supplied with water by a miracle of God's mercy. In Exodus 17 we read: “And all the congregation of the children of Israel journeyed from the wilderness of Sin, after their journeys, according to the commandment of the LORD, and pitched in Rephidim: and there was no water for the people to drink.”

Ex 17:1



God instructed Moses to take his rod and hit the rock in Horeb, and water would come out of it so that all the people may drink. Moses did what God had told him and water flowed out of the rock to satisfy all the people's thirst.

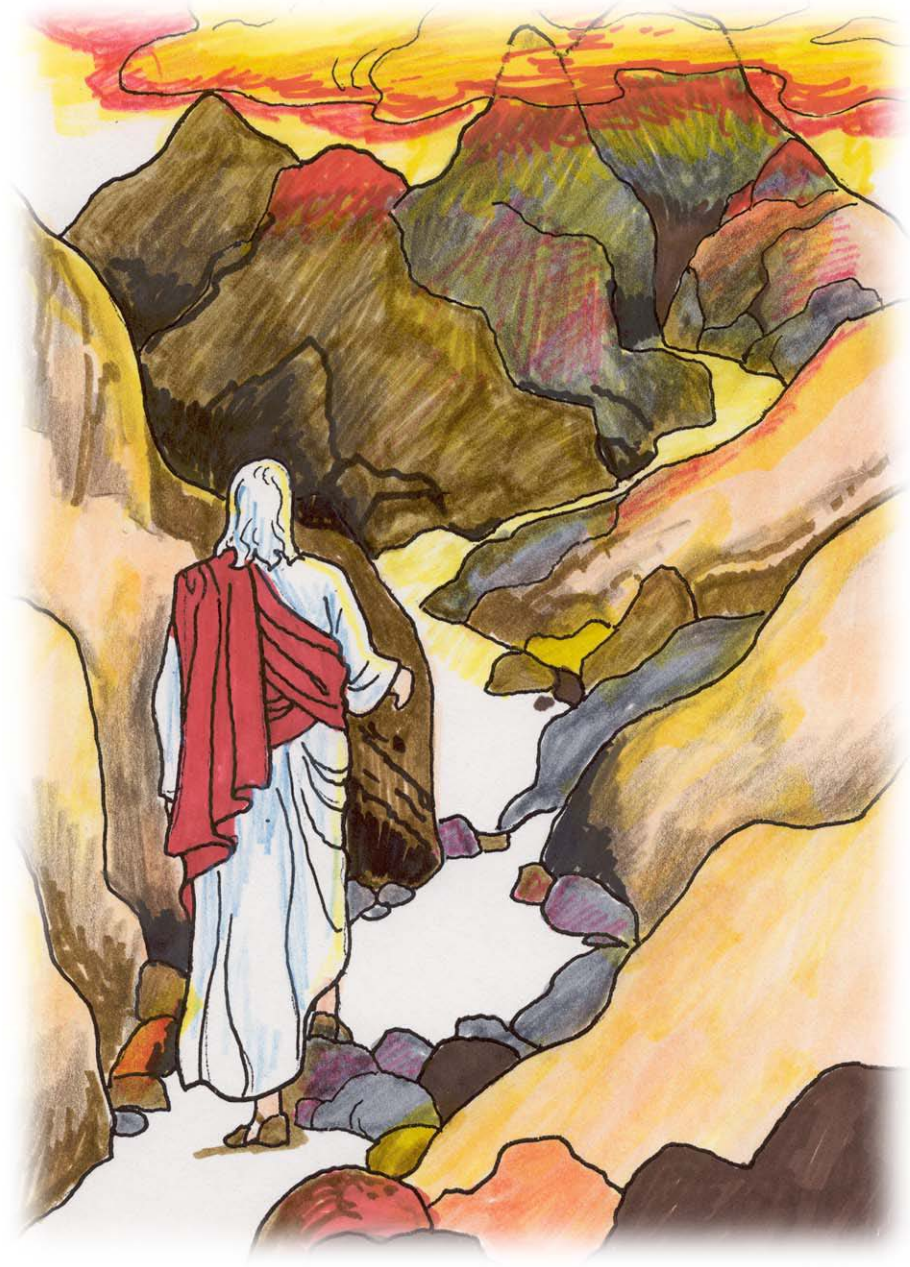
It was Christ, by the power of his word, that caused the refreshing stream to flow for Israel. "They drank of that spiritual rock that followed them; and the rock was Christ."
1 Cor 10:4



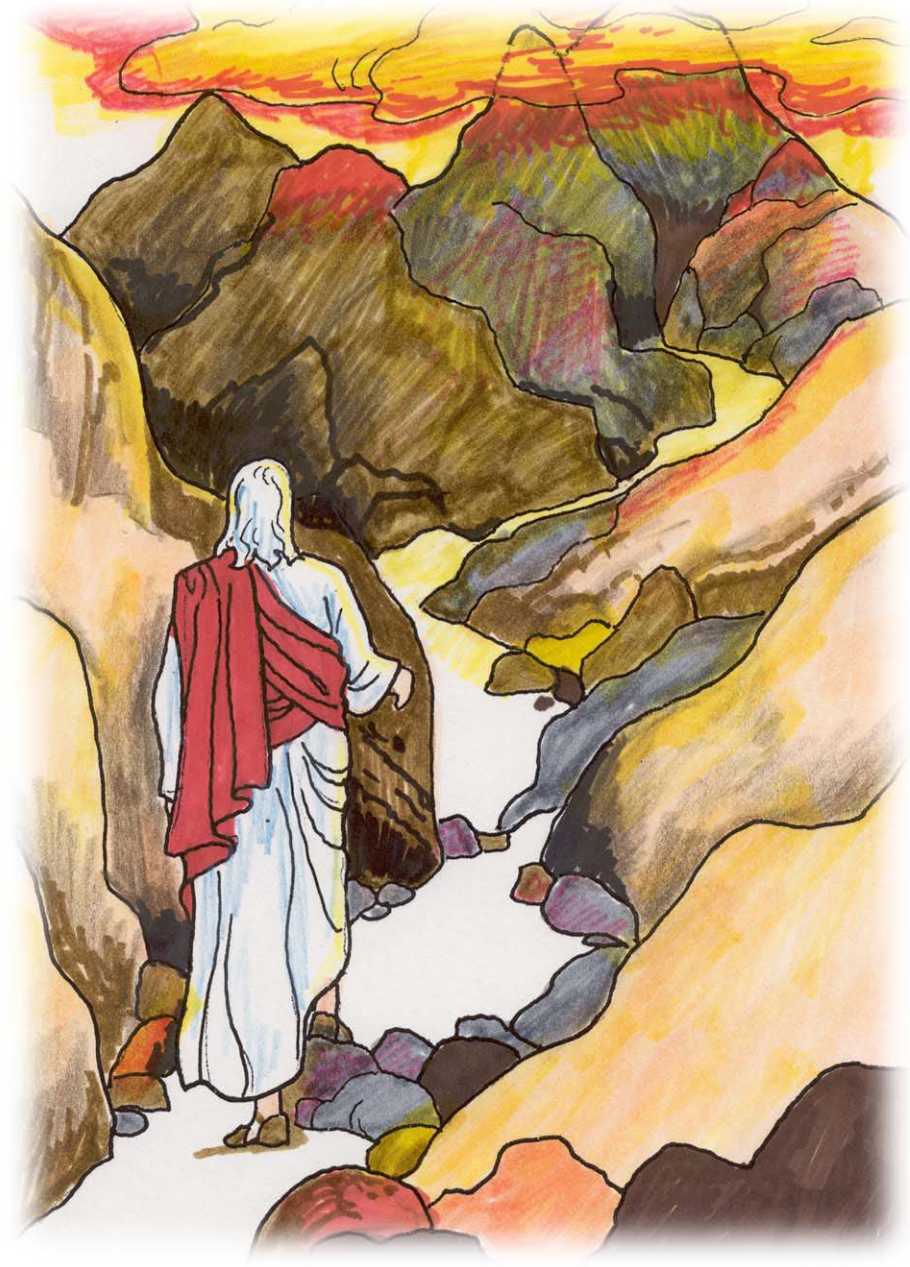
When the children of Israel were delivered from the Egyptians, they came to a wilderness. A cloudy pillar led their way. Their route had led them across barren plains, over steep ascents, and through rocky defiles. Eventually they entered a deep, gravelly pass which led them to Mount Sinai. The cloudy pillar rested upon its summit and the people spread their tents upon the plain beneath. Here was to be their home for nearly a year. Here Israel was to receive the most wonderful revelation ever made by God to men.



Soon after the encampment at Sinai, Moses was called up into the mountain to meet with God. Alone he climbed the steep and rugged path, and drew near to the cloud that marked the place of Jehovah's presence.



Several times Moses ascended the mountain to receive instructions from the LORD. God was preparing the people to receive His holy law, and the instructions on making a tabernacle where He would reveal His presence in the most holy place of the sanctuary. Moses ascended the mountain where God communed with him for forty days.



What did Moses see and hear while he was on the Mount? By day and by night the prophet was intensively observing what God revealed to him. He saw the great and marvelous sanctuary in heaven. He saw the glory of God in the midst of the heavenly throne. God told Moses, “**Make all things according to the pattern.**” Heb 8:5



Moses was commanded to make such careful and strict observations that every detail of the sanctuary he was to erect would be in perfect accord with what was revealed to him. The sanctuary with its services and its furnishings was given to Moses from the LORD directly by revelation. This is why God summoned Moses to the mount.

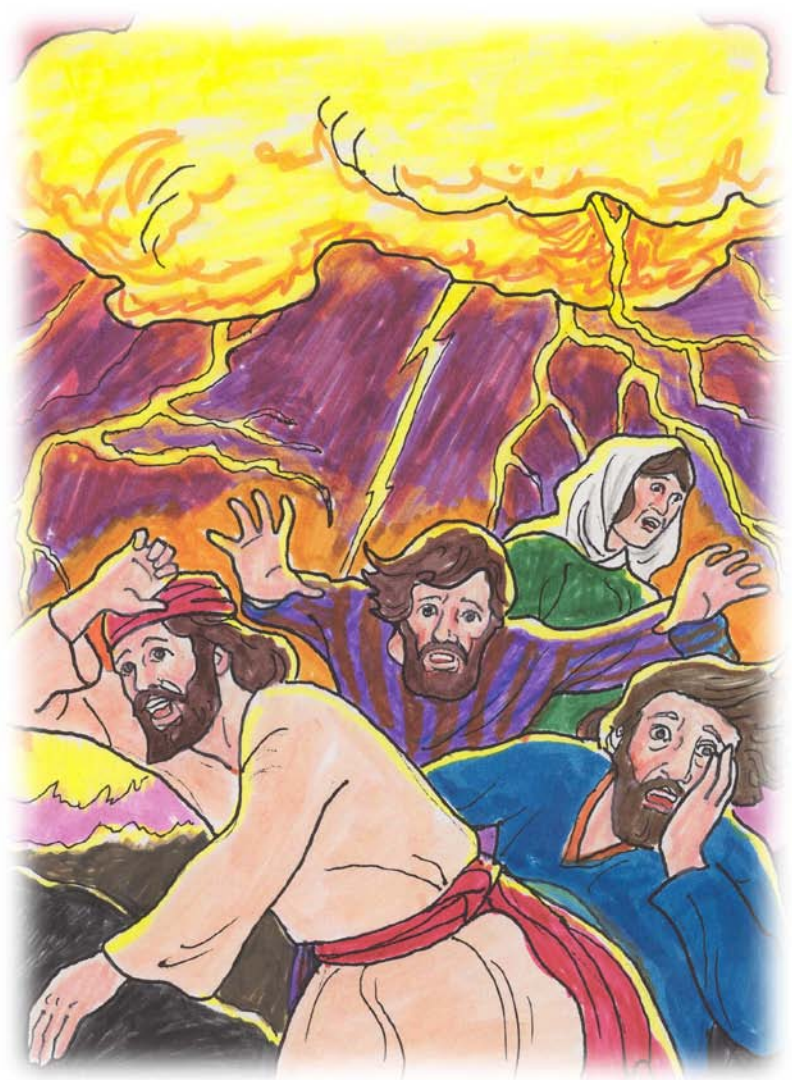


When God gave Moses the holy law on Mt. Sinai it was a glorious and awesome occasion. At this solemn meeting on Mt. Sinai, there were tens of thousands of holy angels present. “The LORD came from Sinai..and He came with ten thousands of saints; from His right hand went a fiery law for them.” Deut 33:2 see Jude 14



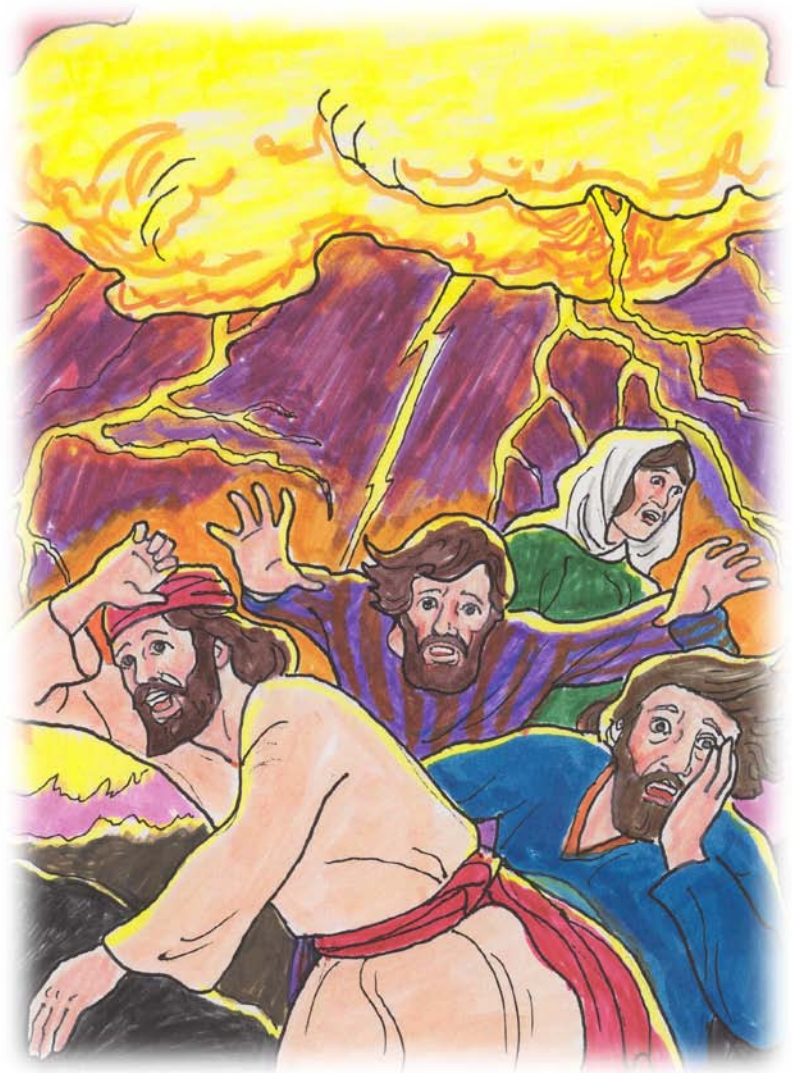
The angelic host that attended the divine majesty summoned the people by a sound resembling that of a trumpet which waxed louder and louder until the whole earth trembled. Lightnings flashed amid the surrounding heights. “and Mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke because the LORD descended upon it in fire; and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly.”

Ex. 19:18

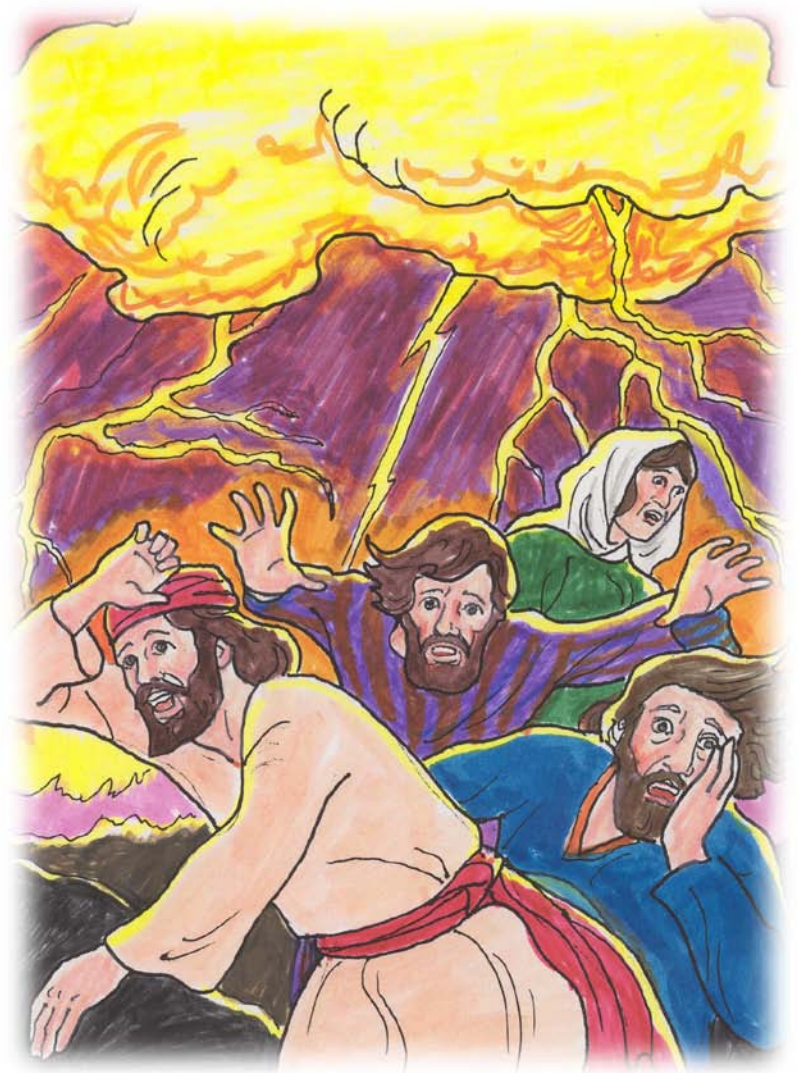


“The glory of the LORD was like devouring fire on the top of the mount in the sight of the assembled multitude.” Ex. 24:17

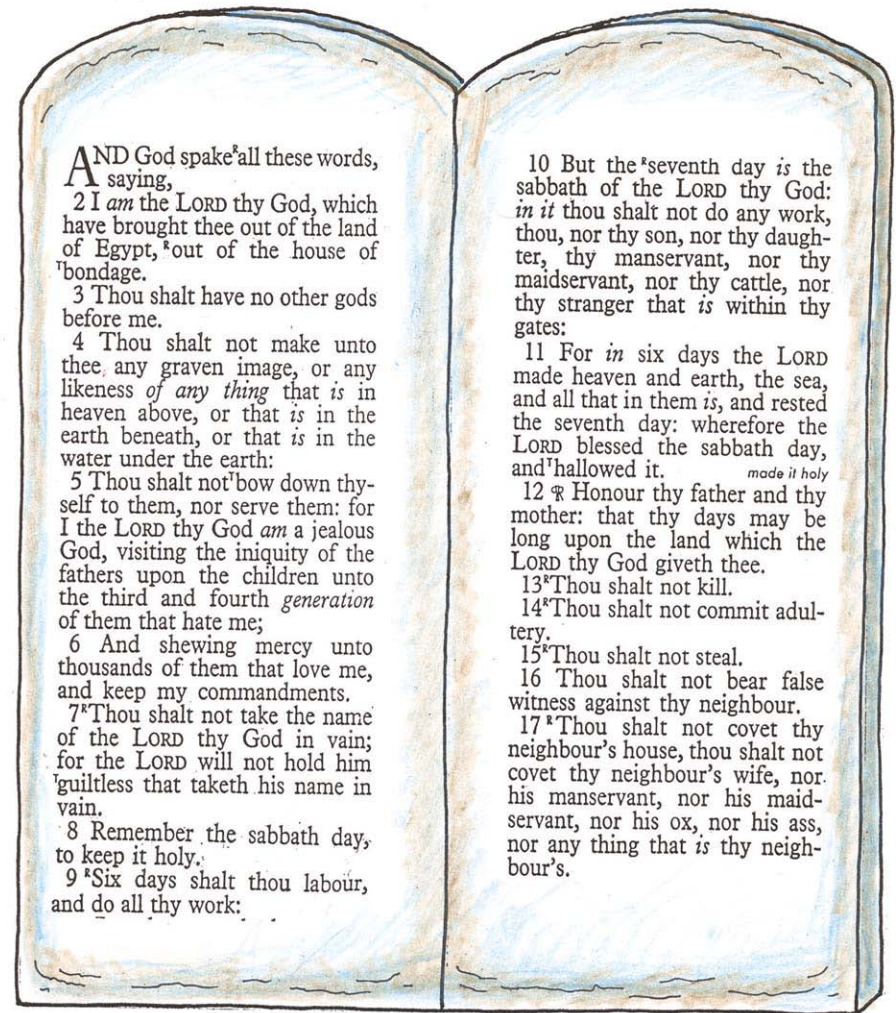
And the voice of the trumpet sounded louder and louder. So terrible were the tokens of Jehovah’s presence that the hosts of Israel shook with fear and fell upon their faces before the LORD.



And now the thunders ceased;
the trumpet was no longer
heard; the earth was still.
There was a period of solemn
silence, and then the voice of
God was heard. Surrounded
by a retinue of angels, the
LORD made known his law.

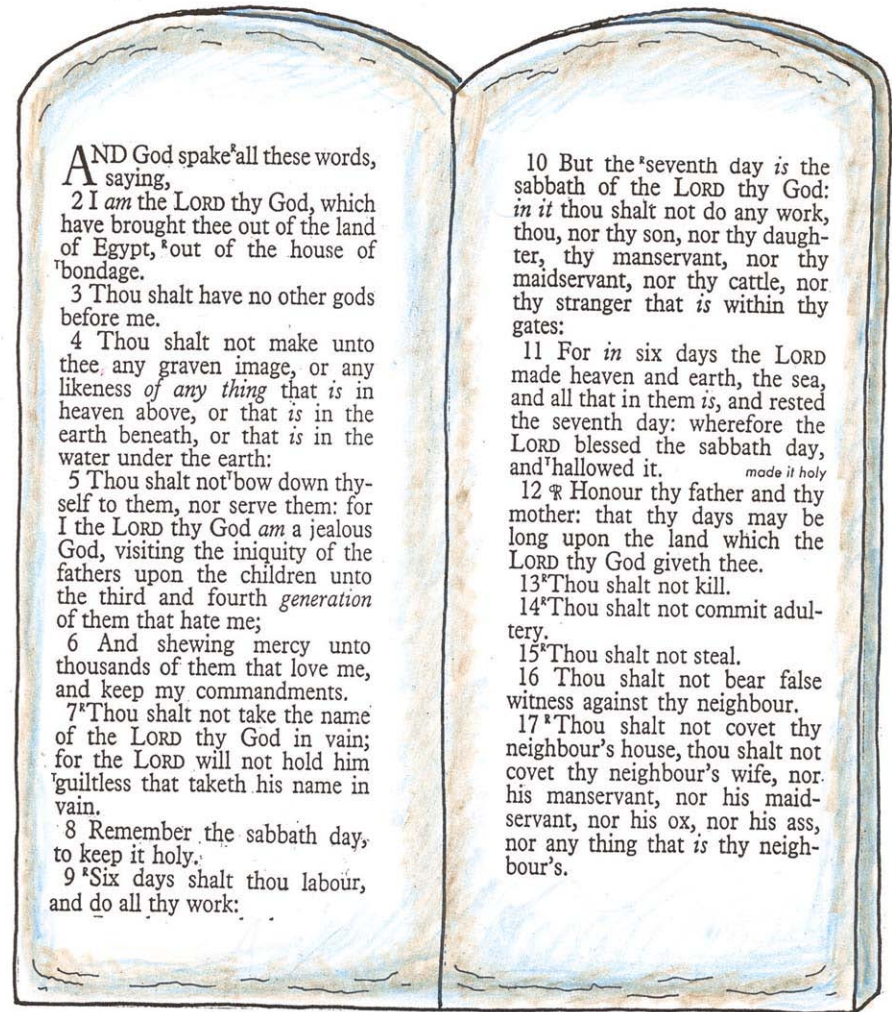


Jehovah revealed himself, not alone in the awful majesty of the judge and law giver, but as the compassionate guardian of his people: “I am the LORD thy God which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.” Ex 20:2 He whom they had already known as their guide and deliverer, who had brought them forth from Egypt, making a way for them through the sea, and overthrowing Pharaoh and his host, who had thus shown himself to be above all the gods of Egypt. He-it was who now spoke his law.

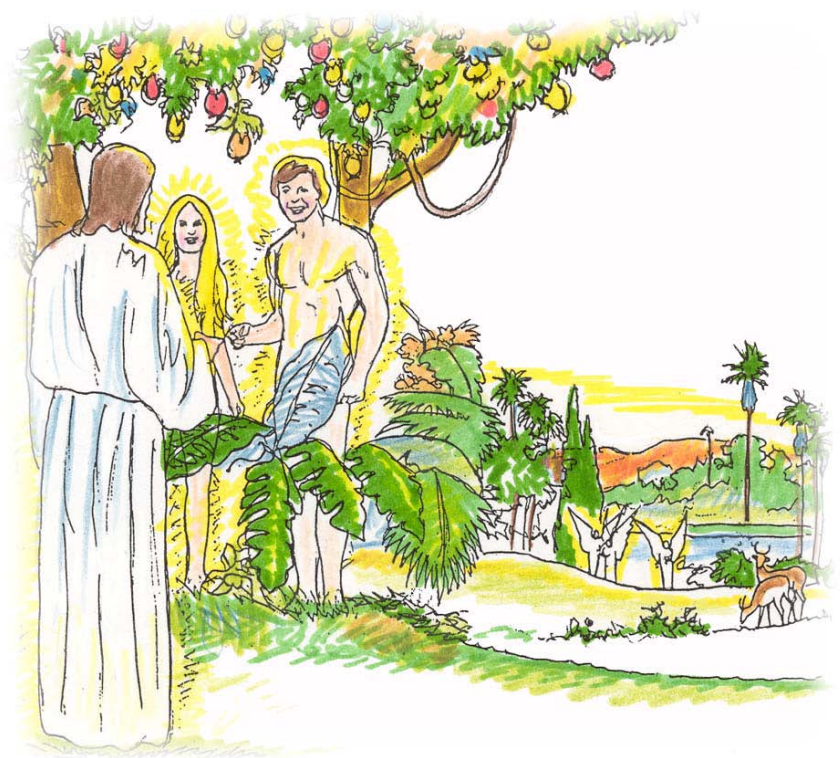


God did not speak his law for the Hebrews alone, but for the whole world. Ten precepts, briefs, comprehensive, and authoritative, cover the duty of man to God, and to his fellow man; and all based upon the great fundamental principle of love.

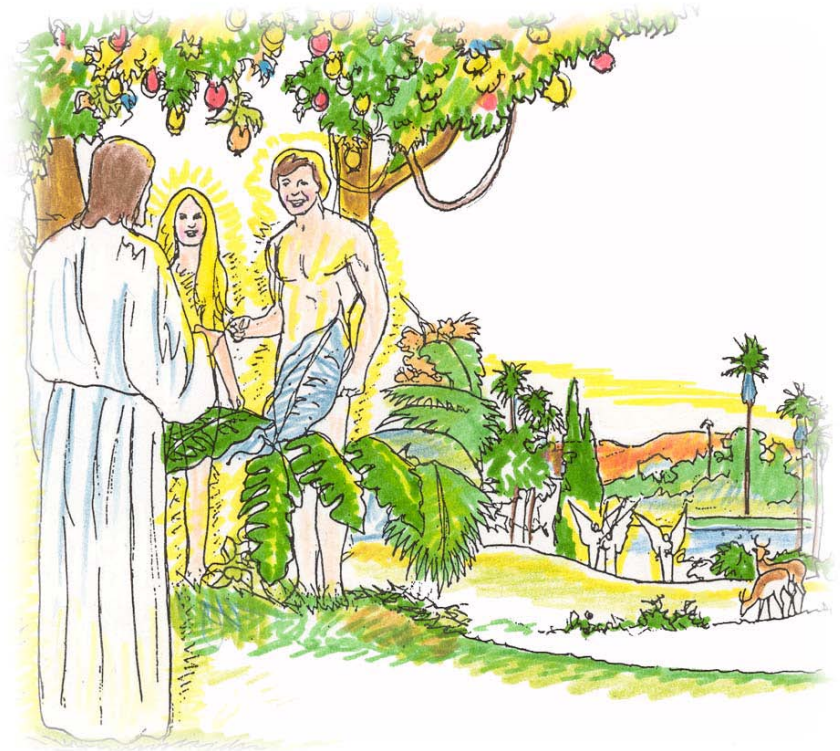
The ten commandments law is the standard of righteousness and the rule of judgment.



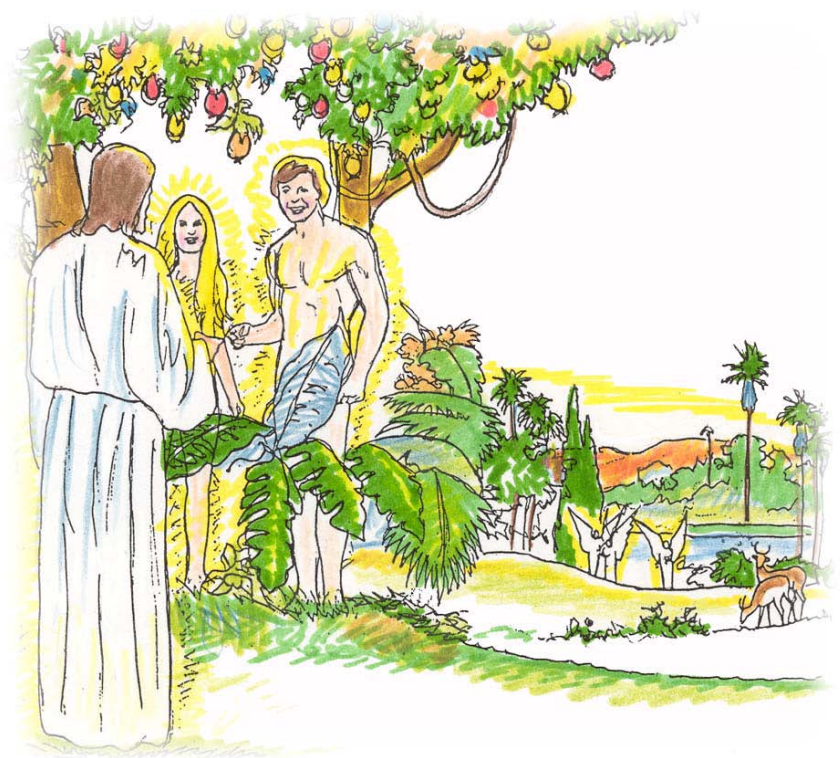
Where is Christ seen in the law? In the fourth commandment we read of the creator God who “made heaven, and earth, the sea, and all that in them is.” Ex. 20:11 The fourth commandment reveals the creator of heaven and earth. In John 1:1-3 we read, “in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God, All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made.”



Man has tried to change God's seventh day Sabbath to the first day of the week. Anyone that takes away the seventh day Sabbath out of the law takes Christ out of the law. The seventh day Sabbath is in the heart of the law. This law was placed in the ark of the covenant in the most holy place in the sanctuary.



“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy,. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work. But the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD thy God; in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor the maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it. Ex. 20:8-11



“The glory that shone on the face of Moses was a reflection of the righteousness of Christ in the law. The law itself would have no glory, only that in it Christ is embodied. It has no power to save. It is lusterless. Only as in it Christ is represented as full of righteousness and truth.”

RH 4/22/02



“And when Aaron and all the children of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone; and they were afraid to come nigh him.” Ex 34:30

Because of the glory that shone on his face, Moses had to veil his face when he spoke to the children of Israel. Israel’s prophet was unconscious of the glory that rested upon him.

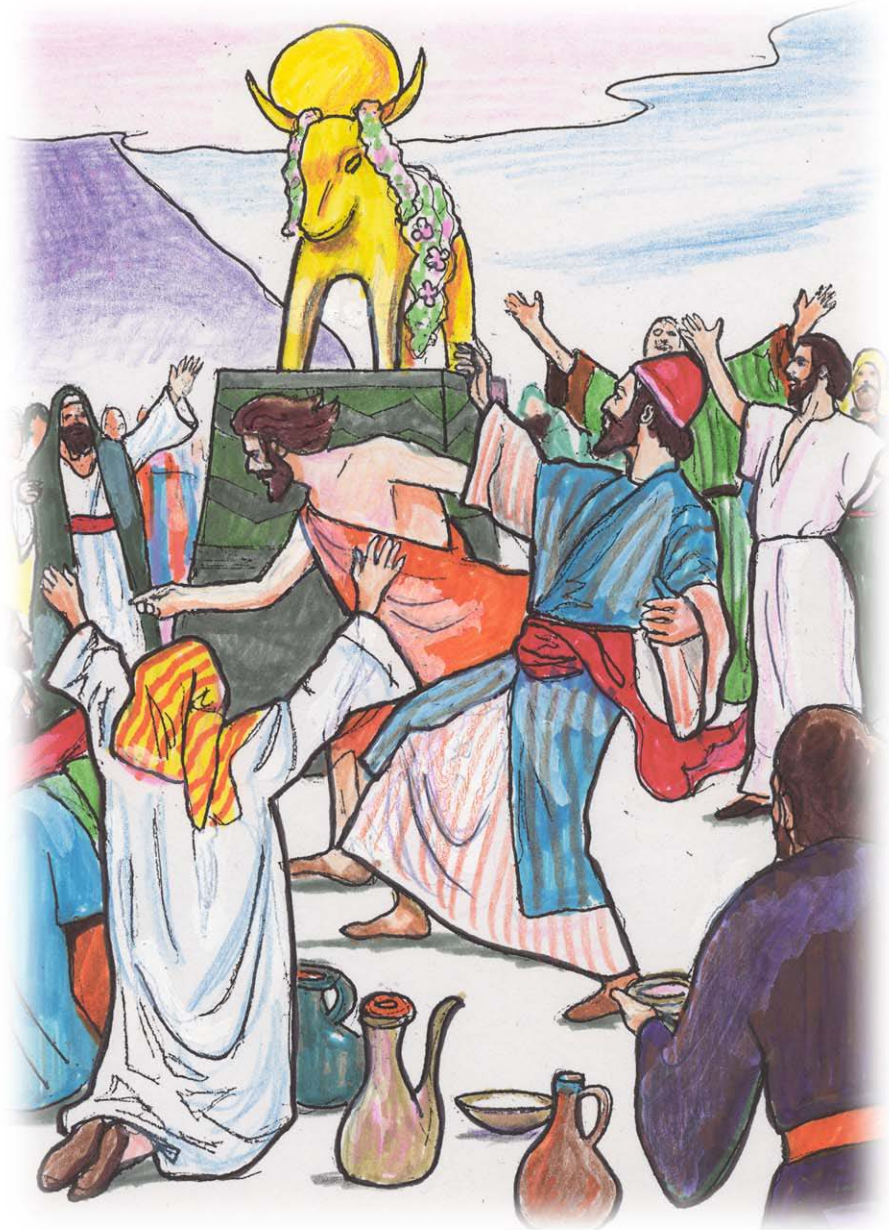


Moses' close and constant communion with God resulted in a manifestation of the glory of God in the prophets face. In a spiritual sense, it is our privilege to reflect the outshining of God's glory as a result of close communion with Christ. "But we all, with open face, beholding as in a glass the glory of the LORD, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the spirit of the LORD." 2 Cor 3:18

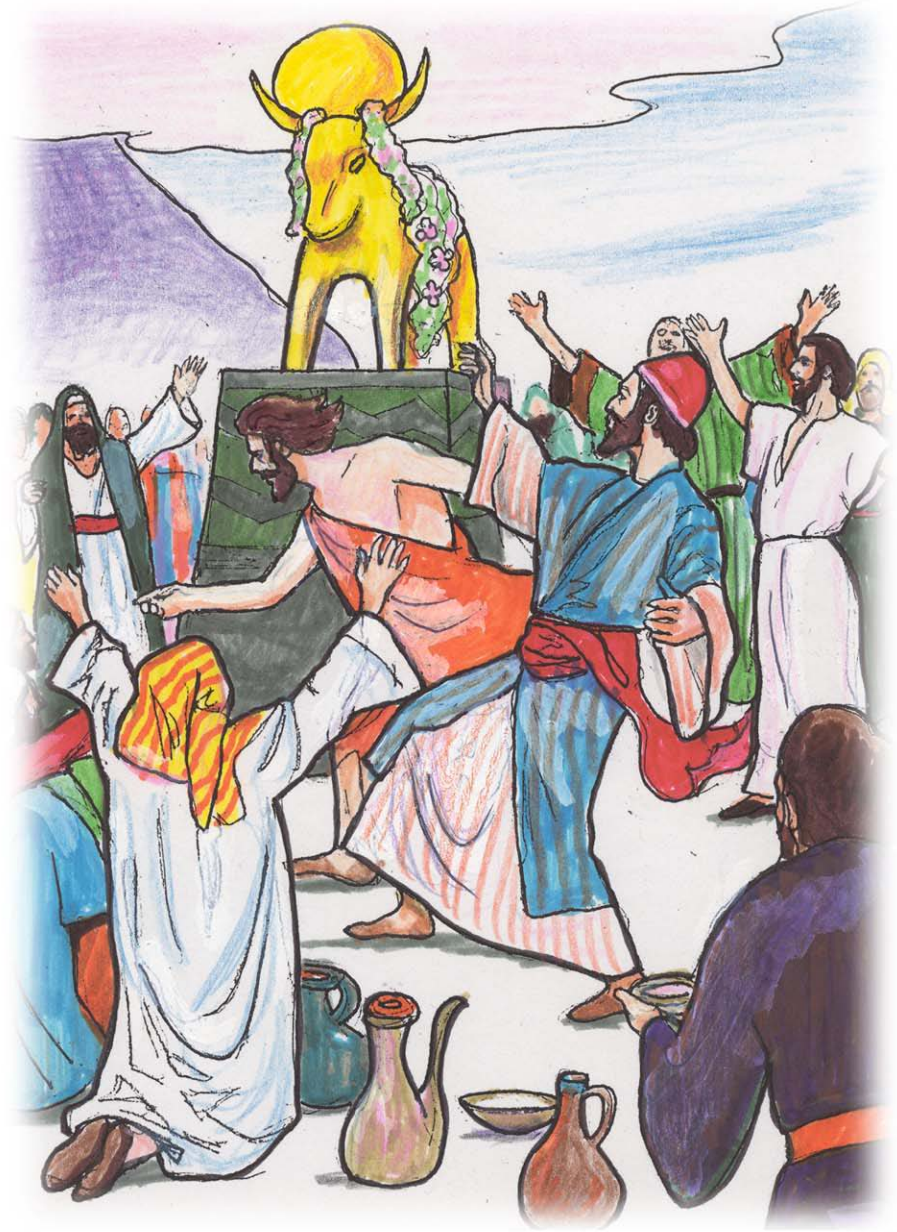


THE GOLDEN CALF

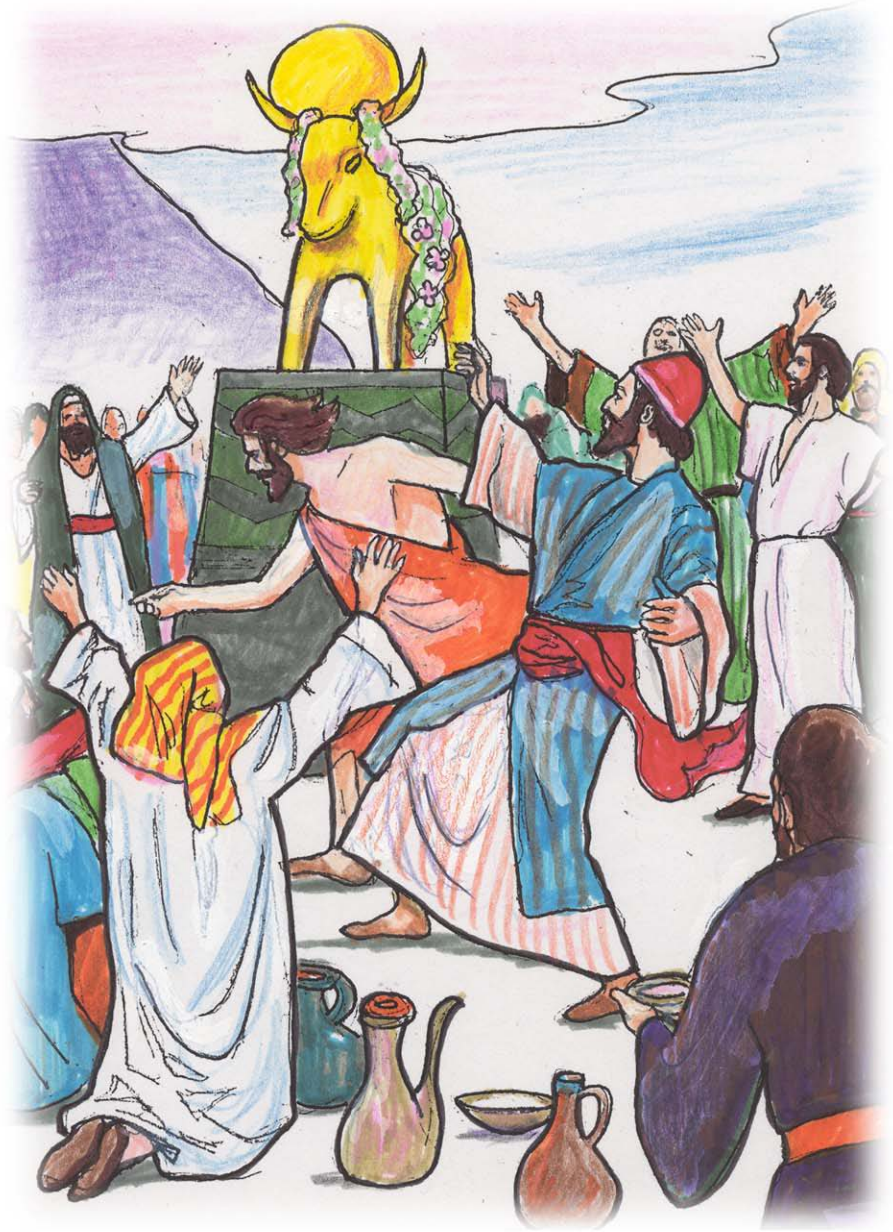
While Moses and Joshua had ascended the mount and had entered the cloud of thick darkness, the people waited. Day after day and week after week passed, and still they did not return. At times, lightning flashed on the mount and the people thought that Moses was consumed by the devouring fire. There was a great mixed multitude that came out of Egypt with the Israelites that became impatient and wanted to return to Egypt.



Among the objects regarded by the Egyptians as symbols of deity was the ox or calf. Those that had worshipped an ox in Egypt suggested that they make a golden calf to lead them back to Egypt.



The Bible says that the people broke off their golden earrings that were used to make a golden calf. The people danced around the golden calf and worshipped it. They forgot how God led them out of Egypt through the Red Sea and how the Egyptian host were destroyed by the hand of God. Now they worshipped a symbol of the sun as God rather than the true God of heaven.



And Moses turned, and went down from the mount, and the two tables of testimony were in his hand: the tables were written on both their sides: on the one side and on the other were they written. And the tables were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, graven upon the tables. And it came to pass as he come nigh unto the camp, that he saw the calf and the dancing: and Moses' anger waxed hot, and he cast the tables out of his hands, and brake them beneath the mount.



And he took the calf which they made, and burnt it in the fire, and ground it to powder, and strewed it upon the water, and made the children of Israel drink it.

Moses was overwhelmed. He had just come from the presence of God's glory. To show his abhorrence of their crime, he threw down the tables of stone, and they were broken in the sight of all the people, thus signifying that as they had broken their covenant with God, so God had broken his covenant with them.



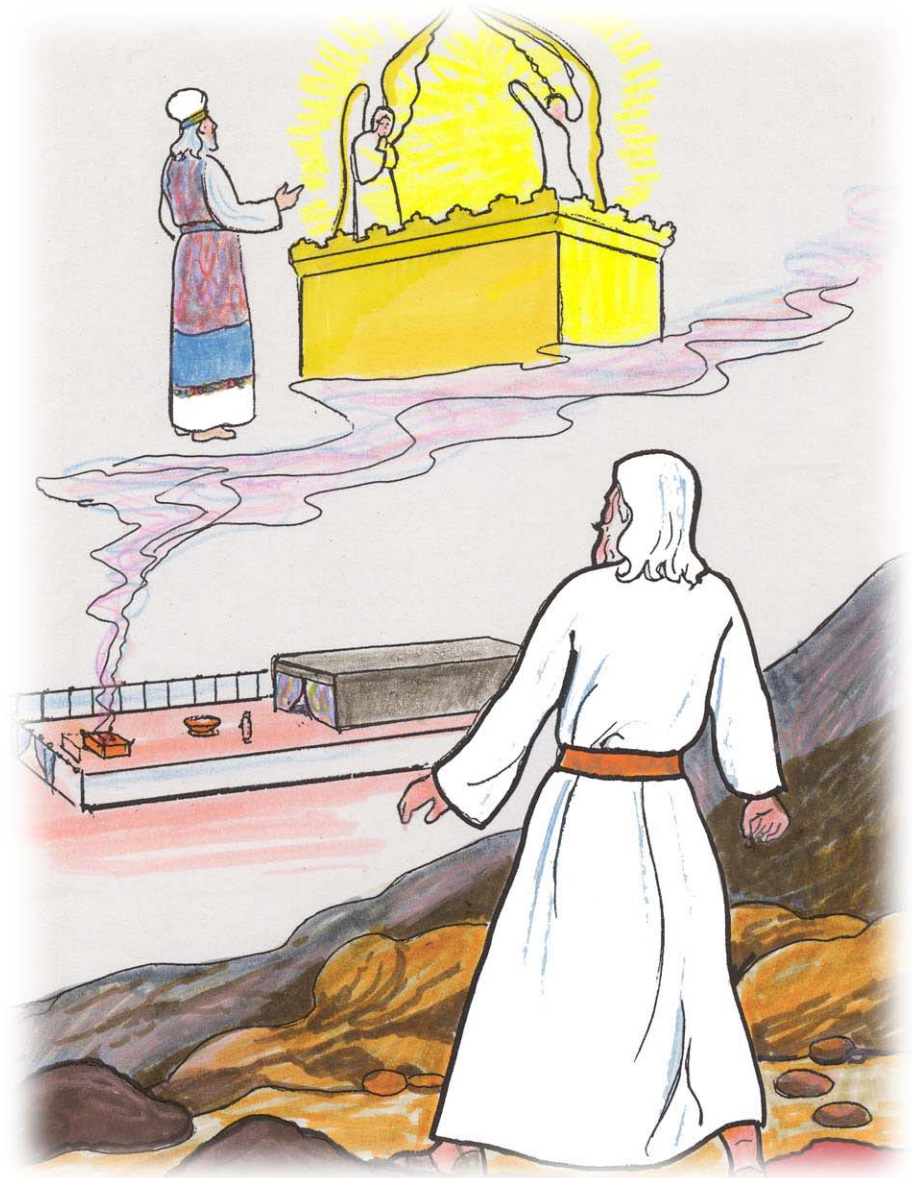
While Moses was in the mount
God presented before him a view
of the heavenly sanctuary, and
commanded him to make all
things according to the pattern
shown him.

“Now of the things which we
have spoken, this is the sum: We
have such a High Priest who is
set on the right hand of the throne
of the majesty in the heavens; A
minister of the sanctuary, and of
the true tabernacle, which the
LORD pitched, and not man.”

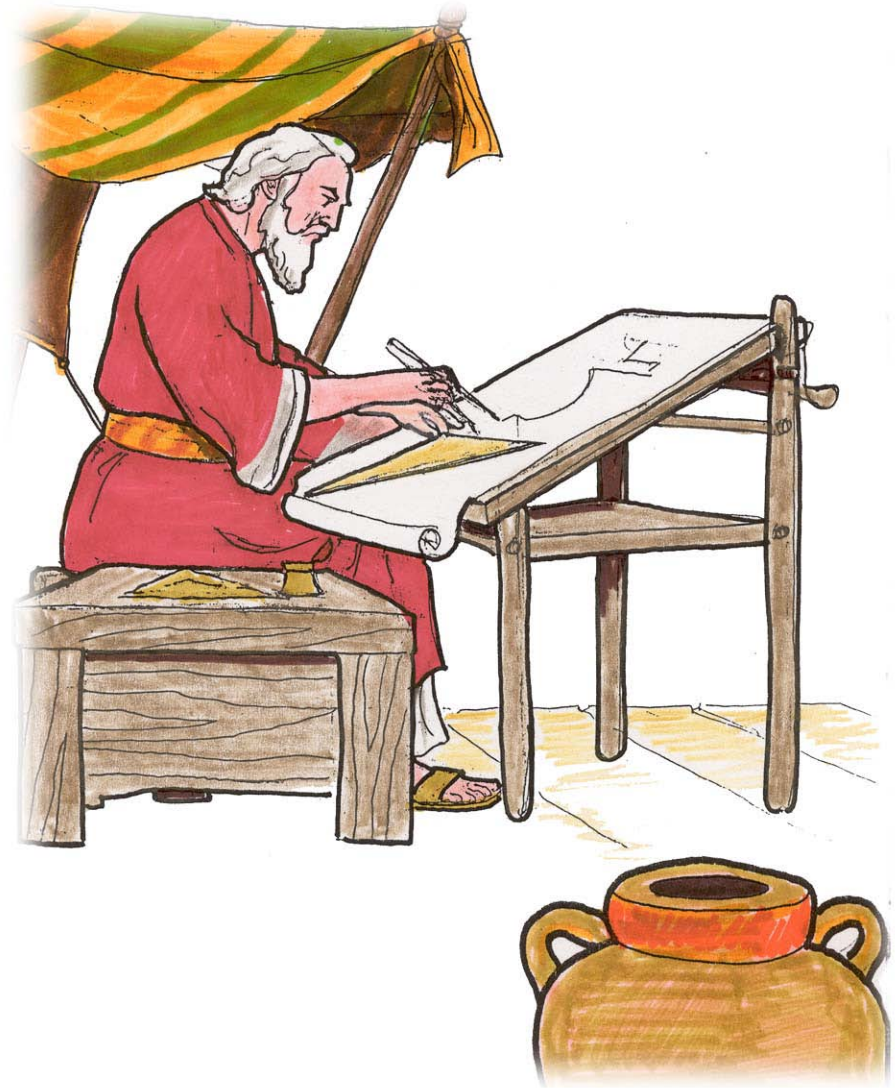
Heb. 8:1,2



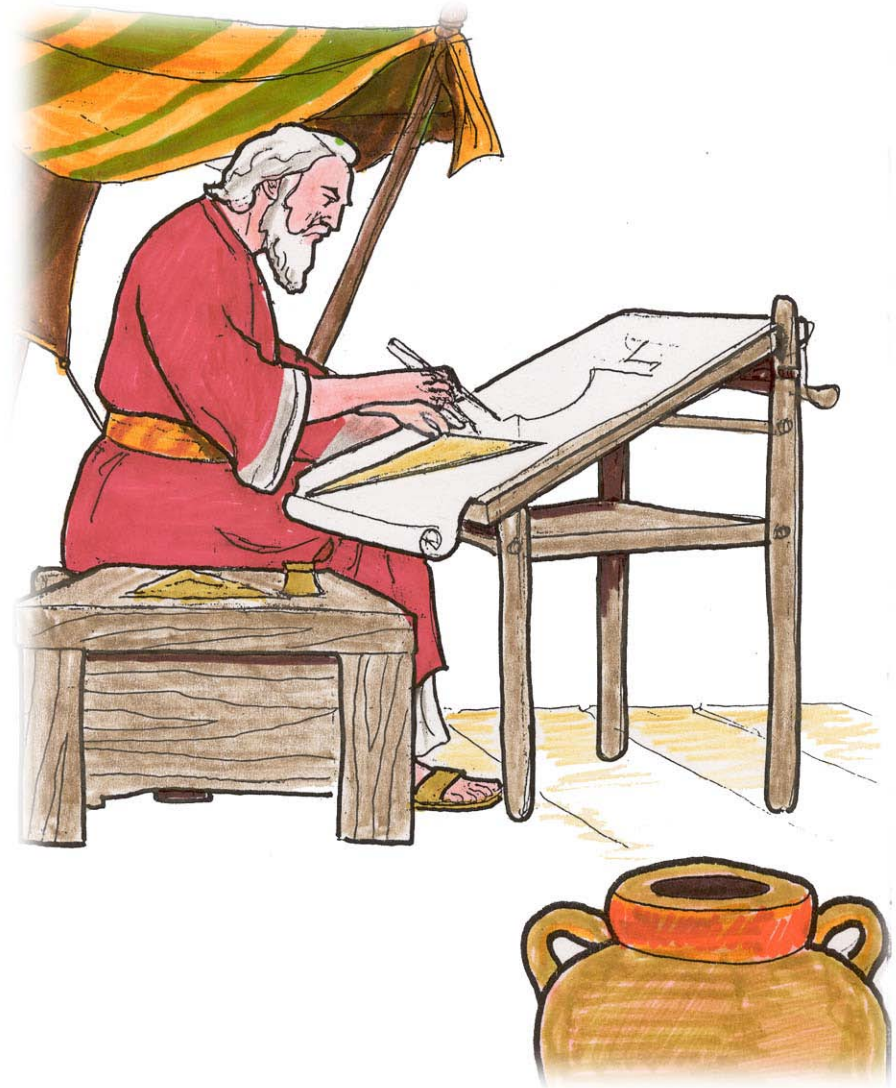
Moses was commanded to make such careful and strict observations that every detail of the sanctuary he was to erect would be in perfect accord with what was revealed to him. The sanctuary with its services and its furnishings was given to Moses from the LORD directly by revelation. This is why God commanded Moses to the mount.



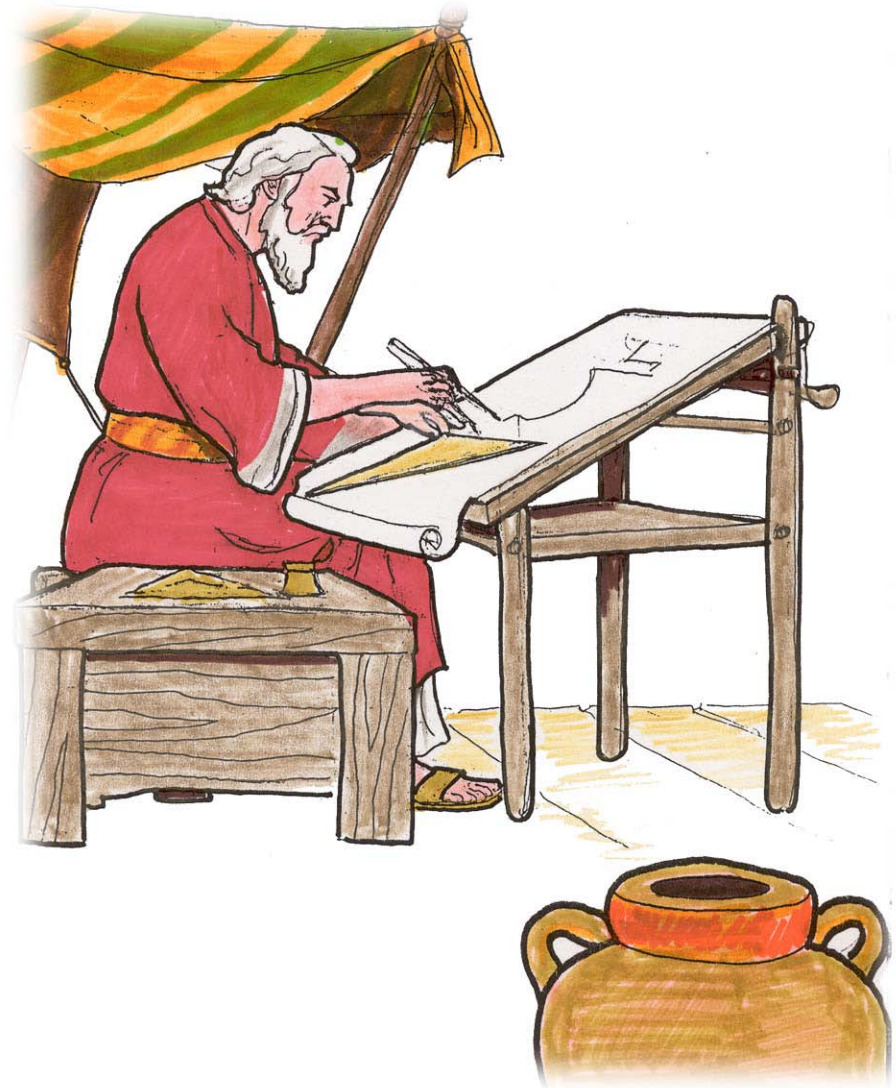
Moses must have drawn the plans of the tabernacle so that he could show the builders what God had revealed to him. He needed special workmen and the Bible tells us of two gifted men that God chose for the work.



“And Moses said unto the children of Israel, see, the LORD hath called by name Bezaleel, the son of Ure, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah; and he hath filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship” Ex 35:30,31



Verse 34 names the second gifted workman as Aholiab, of the tribe of Dan. “Them hath he filled with wisdom of heart, to work all manner of work, of the engraver, and of the cunning workman, and of the embroiderer, in blue, and in purple, in scarlet, and in fine linen, and of the weaver, *even* of them that do any work, and of those that devise cunning work.” Ex. 35:35



“And the LORD spoke unto
Moses saying, speak unto the
children of Israel that they may
bring me an offering: of every
man that giveth it willingly with
his heart ye shall take my
offering”

Ex 25:1,2



The people gave their offerings.
They brought gold and silver and
brass, blue and purple and
scarlet, and fine linen and goats
hair, and rams skins dyed red,
and badgers skins, and shittim
wood, and oil, and incense, and
precious stones.



The women brought their brass mirrors and jewelry, earrings and bracelets and rings. In Egypt the women put on jewelry for outward adornment. God wanted them to take off their jewelry so it could be used in the inside of the temple for His glory.



While the building of the sanctuary was in progress, the people, old and young, men, women and children, continued to bring their offerings, until those in charge of the work found that they had enough, and even more than could be used. And Moses caused to be proclaimed throughout the camp, “Let neither man nor woman make any more work for the offering of the sanctuary. So the people were restrained from bringing.”

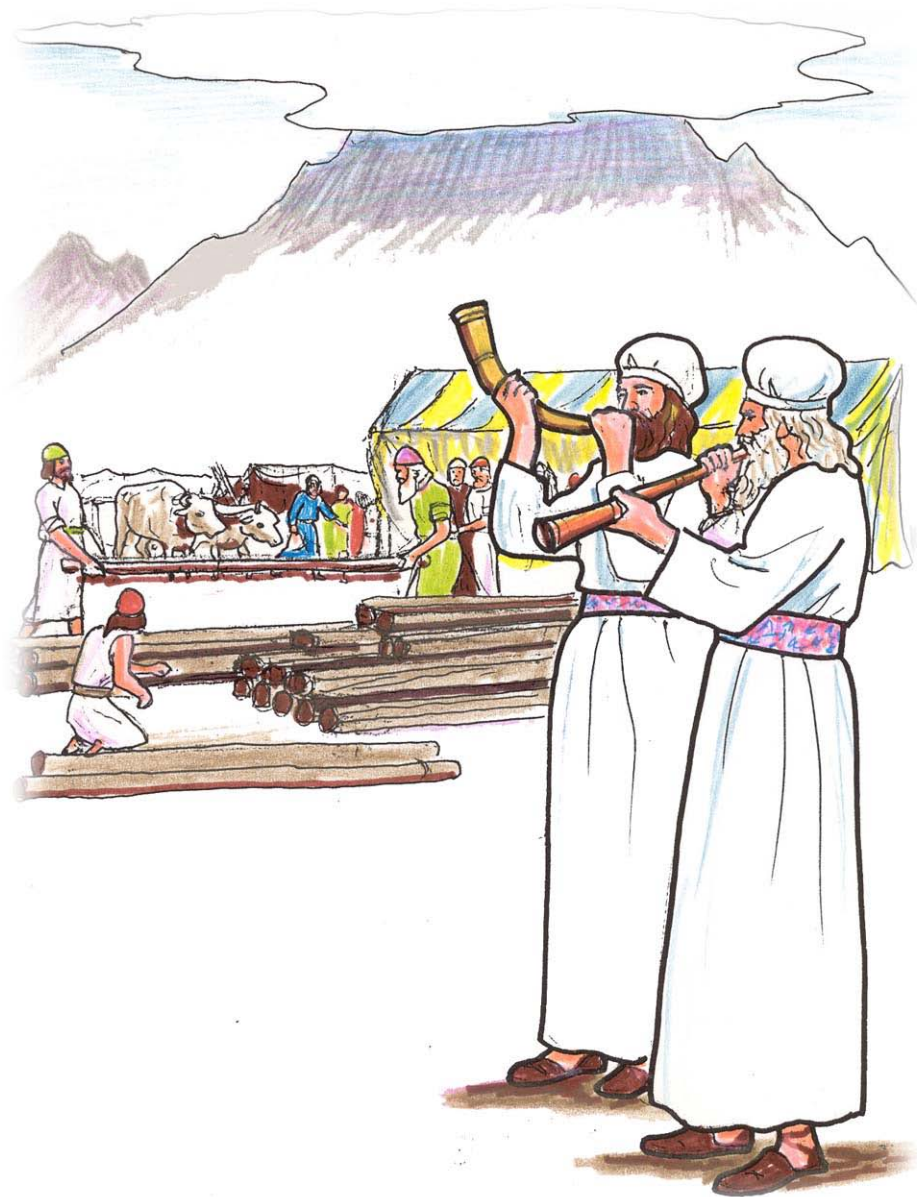
Ex 36:6



All who love the worship of God, and prize the blessing of his sacred presence, will desire to bring their very best offering for the service of God. Even the children learned the lesson of giving for the building of the tabernacle.



For the building of the sanctuary, great and expensive preparations were necessary; a large amount of the most precious and costly material was required; yet the LORD accepted only free-will offerings. Devotion to God and a spirit of sacrifice were the first requisites in preparing a dwelling place for the Most High.



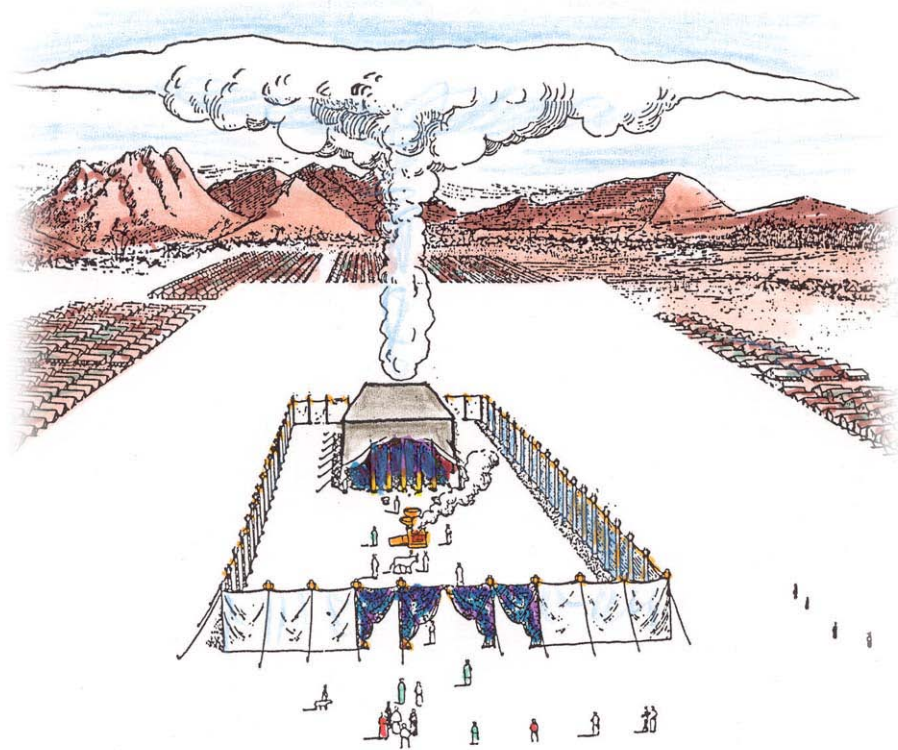
It took about half a year to build the tabernacle. When it was completed, Moses examined all the work of the builders, comparing it with the pattern that God gave him on the mount, and the directions he had received from the LORD.

“As the LORD had commanded, even so had they done it; and Moses blessed them.”

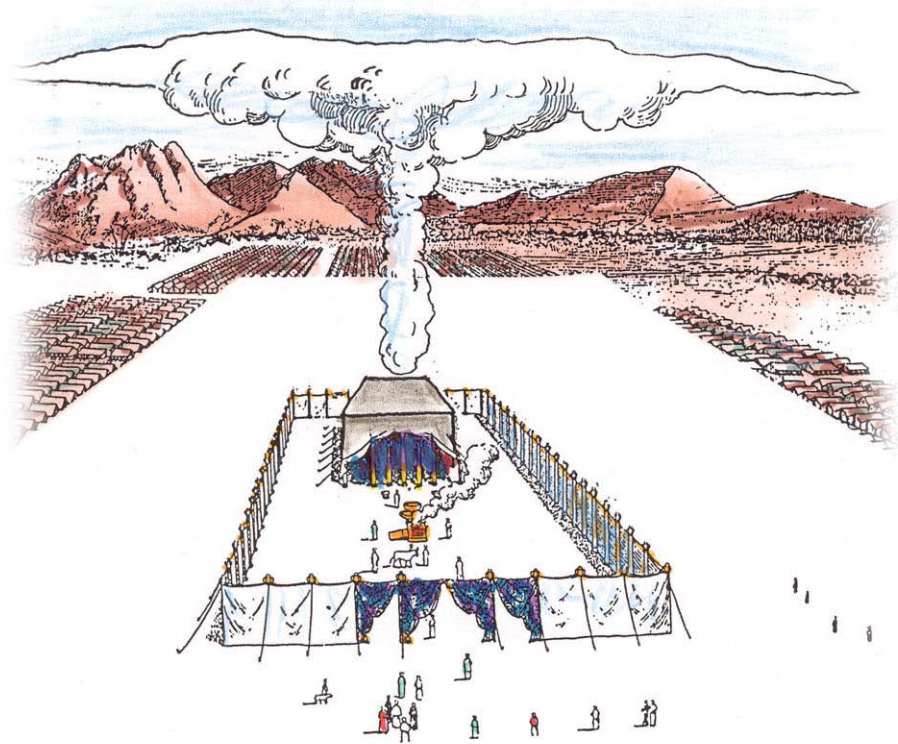
Ex 39:43



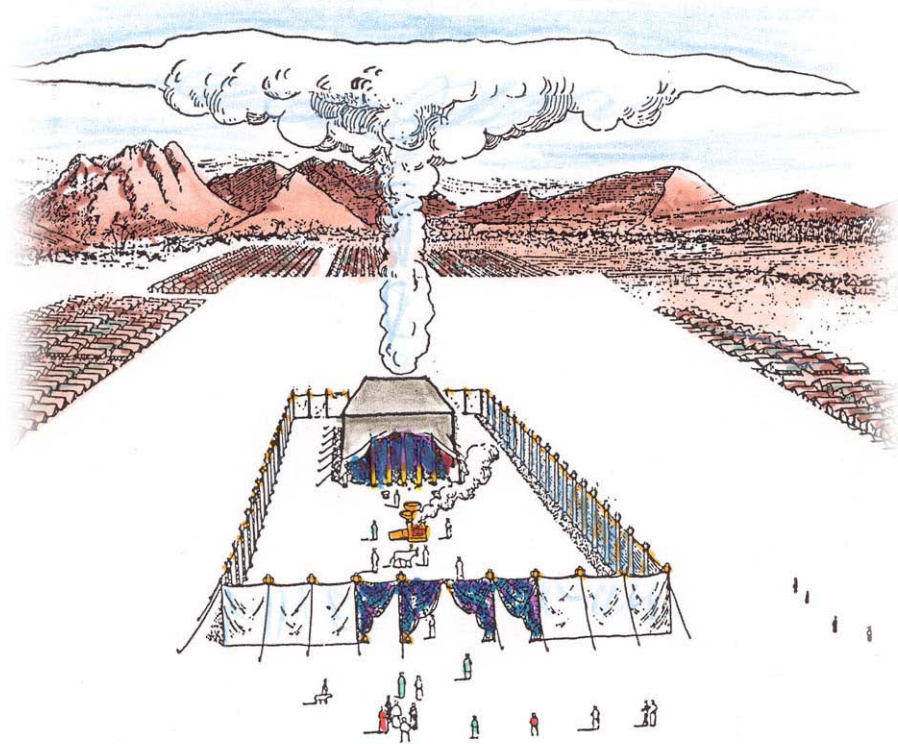
The sacred tent was enclosed in an open space called the court, which was surrounded by hangings, or screens of fine linen, suspended from the pillars of brass. The entrance to this enclosure was at the eastern end. It was closed by curtains of costly material and beautiful workmanship though inferior to those of the sanctuary. The hangings of the court were about half as high as the walls of the tabernacle. The tent could be seen by the people without.



In the court, and nearest the entrance, stood the brazen altar of burnt-offering. Upon the altar were consumed all the sacrifices made by fire unto the LORD, and the horns were sprinkled with the atoning blood.



Between the altar and the door of the tabernacle was the brass laver made from the mirrors that had been the free-will offering of the women of Israel. At the laver the priests were to wash their hands and their feet whenever they went into the sacred apartments, or approached the altar to offer a burnt-offering unto the LORD.



The roof of the tabernacle was formed of four sets of curtains. The innermost was made of fine twined linen, and blue, purple and scarlet, with cherubim's of cunning work. The cherubim were made with threads of gold embroidered in the the fabric.



The other three were of goats hair that was white, rams skins dyed red, and seal skins that were dark brown or black. One curtain was laid on the other to protect the sanctuary.

Notice that innermost curtains were the most beautiful and the outside covering was plain.



Many lessons can be drawn from the way these curtains were arranged. As they deal with Christ, we find the outer curtain that was plain could refer to Jesus not bringing attention to Himself, but made Himself of no reputation. The next covering was red pointing to Christ's blood and sacrifice that cleanses us from sin. The third covering was white goats hair revealing Christ's righteousness. The innermost would reveal His divine nature with the service of the angels around the throne.



BEHOLD THE LAMB



To find out what was in the sanctuary: See part 2