

Friday, June 5th , 2009

Exodus 19:3-8a

Israel has escaped out of Egypt under Moses, crossed the Red Sea and have now arrived at the foot of Mount Sinai where they will soon be given the 10 Commandments.



³ Then Moses went up to God; the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: ⁴ You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. ⁵ Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, ⁶ but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.' ⁷ So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him. ⁸ The people all answered as one: 'Everything that the Lord has spoken we will do.' Moses reported the words of the people to the Lord.

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Discussion:

- 1) Where is "grace" in this passage? How is it described?**
- 2) What response is called for by the Israelites? What did Israel do?**
- 3) How have we been "carried on eagles' wings?"**

Saturday, June 6th, 2009

Hebrews 10:19-25

The author of the Book of Hebrews has been writing of Jesus as both the superior High Priest and the superior Sacrifice which he offers.



¹⁹ Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

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Discussion:

- 1) To what/whom have we gained access and how was this made possible?**
- 2) How is "grace" present in this passage?**
- 3) What is our role in helping one another respond to the challenge of v. 24?**