

Glorious Manifestations

Dear Believers,

The Torah Portion, Yitro (Jethro) in the Hebrew Bible is found in **Exodus 18:1—20:23**. Now, every believer should know that our God is mighty and His ability is limitless, but in this section of Scripture, we read that **God spoke aloud to an entire nation** and gave them the Ten Words which have come to be known as the Ten Words, or Commandments.

The sons of Israel had been in Egypt for over four hundred years; imagine the changes that had occurred during that time. Joseph was the prime minister of the land and had been placed there by God as an agent of deliverance for Israel when they arrived, but in the years following they had become assimilated into the ways and practices of Egypt. As you recall, Egyptians were a religious people with many gods, and doctrines of devils. Although the Israeli people were descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, they had drifted far from knowing the One True God and His ways. After being delivered from Egypt with powerful signs and miracles, the great multitude of God's people had been led to the foot of Mount Sinai, and it was there that God spoke directly to them in a powerful and miraculous manner, leaving no doubt that the one speaking was the one-and only Almighty God Who had been speaking to them through Moses and Aaron, Who had led them and provided for them on their journey, and Who considered them His very own precious possession and a nation of priests.

The First Pentecost

Exodus 19:16 And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that was in the camp trembled.

Exodus 19:17 And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet with God; and they stood at the nether part of the mount.

Exodus 19:18 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.

Exodus 19:19 And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice.

What a display of His awesome power! Everything created responds to the voice of the Word of God!

We may have read these words quickly and missed the mighty supernatural events that were taking place as God manifested His Glory to His people. It had to be the most spectacularly overwhelming manifestation ever witnessed by man, and out of the midst of this utterly magnificent and totally miraculous display of splendor came the resounding voice,

Exodus 20:1 And God spake all these words, saying,

Exodus 20:2 I am the LORD (YHWH) thy God, which have brought thee out of the

land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

In spite of the interpretation of many in numbering these Ten Words, I believe that the statement beginning with, **“I am YHWH”** is the first, and foremost of the ten, and **sets the absolute level of importance for each of the remaining nine.**

These Ten Words have been called the basis for the law, and indeed they are, but a deeper understanding would indicate that the Creator of all things, the King of the Universe has, in His benevolent kindness, given a great gift of His love for all of His created beings, **through His Torah (instruction)**, the way to walk in the realm created for them to maximize their fruitfulness and potential in it. Rather than a set of rules which would limit and curtail enjoyment, our Loving Father gave us His teaching and instruction so that we might live safely and productively in His creation without fear. In other words, our loving and faithful God gave us a detailed manual to protect us and to give us direction to our appointed and foreordained destiny. In contrast to what is often spoken about Torah, the secret to success is in believing it first, not just attempting to obey it.

Just as this first Pentecost, or Shavuot, was ushered in with splendor and mighty manifestation of power, and equally dynamic event was recorded some 1500 years later, after the ascension of Yeshua.

The Second Pentecost

Acts 2:1-4 (KJV) ¹ And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. ² And suddenly there came a **sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind**, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. ³ And there appeared unto them **cloven tongues like as of fire**, and it sat upon each of them. ⁴ **And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.**

We often miss the amazing things that take place in the Word of God when we read casually, and fail to meditate. This event, just as the previous one when Torah was given was a magnificent display of the power and glory of God, but on the first Shavuot, **God spoke to His covenant people** and gave them instruction which, when followed, would position them to take their place in His kingdom, or make them a holy nation. On the second Shavuot, God spoke through His covenant people, empowering them to function in Him in the earth to take dominion over all creation for the glory of God.

It is important to note that the first Pentecost gave mankind the Word of God, while the second Pentecost provided the power of God through the Holy Spirit. The kingdom of God is not just in word, but in power (1 Corinthians 4:20). The Living Word of God is as His Spirit breathes His life into His Word through us.

Just as these two amazing events demonstrate the power and glory of God, there is a coming event in which God will manifest Himself, not just to Israel, nor just through His congregation of saints, but He will show Himself and His Word to all creation.

1 Corinthians 15:52 (KJV) ⁵² In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

Revelation 1:7 (KJV) ⁷ Behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced Him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him. Even so, Amen.

Hebrews 9:28 (KJV) ²⁸ So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

Join us to learn the Authority of the Believer each Thursday evening at 6:30pm in Granby.

In His wondrous glory,
Terry