

Interlocked Series

Lesson #15.2

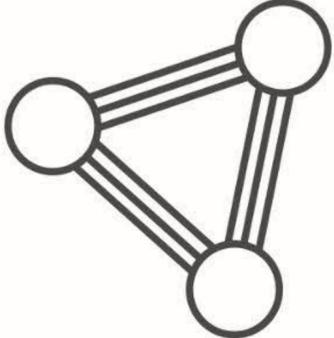
April 16, 2024

Dean Bible Ministries

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Lesson 15: Revelation and Rebellion at Sinai

INTERLOCKED 

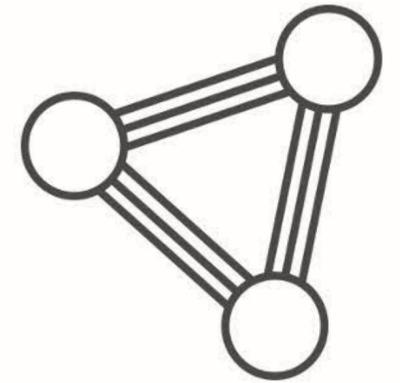
Lesson 15A The Writing of the Law

Revelation: How God Reveals Himself

God's Communication Pattern:

Revelation Through Prophets

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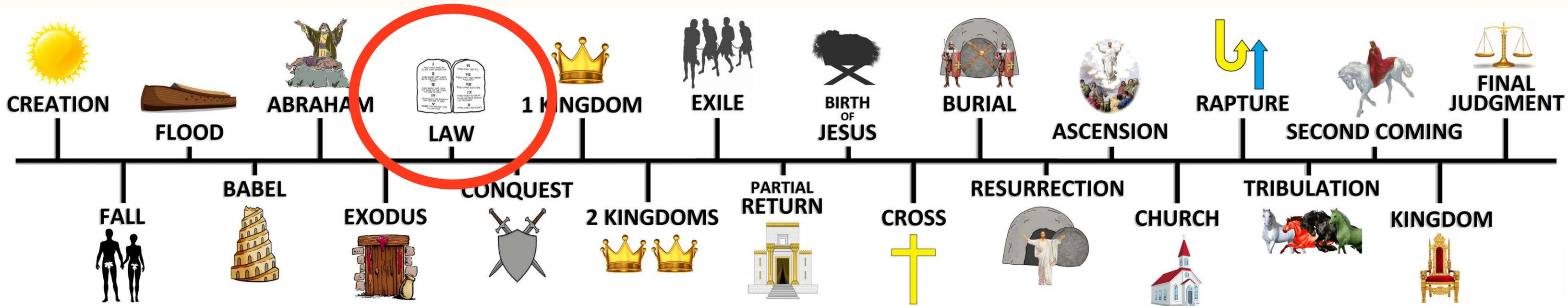


Lesson 15: Revelation and Rebellion at Sinai

Lesson 15B The Canon of the Scripture

**Biblical Faith is Related to God's
Revelation,**

**Rebellion: The Israelites Response
at Sinai and How God Used it**



Divine Institutions

1. Responsible choice
2. Marriage
3. Family
4. Human government
5. Nations and boundaries
6. Israel

God Records His Word: the Inspiration and Canon of Scripture

1 Chron. 29:29, “Now the acts of King David, first and last, indeed they are written in the book of Samuel the seer, in the book of Nathan the prophet, and in the book of Gad the seer,”

John 21:24, “This is the disciple who testifies of these things, and wrote these things; and we know that his testimony is true.

John 21:25, “And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen.”

Inspiration

2 Tim. 3:16, “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God [all Scripture is God-breathed], and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

2 Tim. 3:17, “that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

YAHWEH

REVELATION

What God revealed in the course of history.

INSPIRATION

Many things
God revealed were
NOT recorded in
Scripture.

Only what God
chose to record
became Scripture.



**THE
CANON**

The Bible is God's Revelation written,
preserved, and canonized.

Infallible

Deut. 4:2, “You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.”



Rev. 22:18, “For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book;

Rev. 22:19, “and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.”

The Canon of Scripture

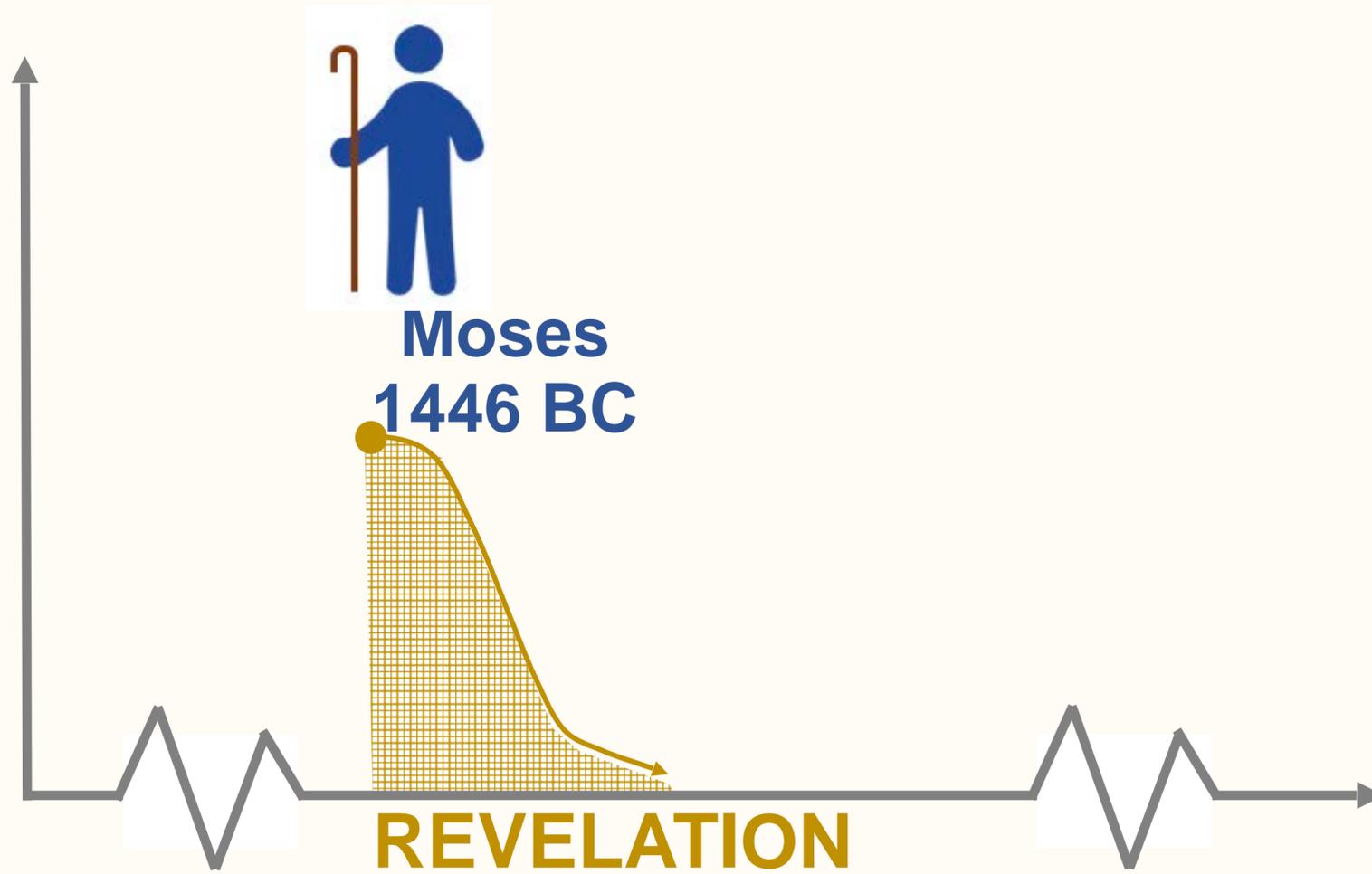
In the
Canon of Scripture

INSPIRED WORD
OF GOD

NOT in the
Canon of Scripture

NOT inspired

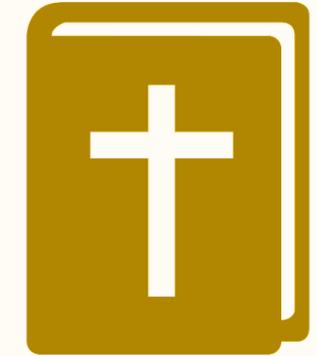
God's Revelation



Recorded by true prophets

1446 BC

AD 95



**CANON
CLOSED**

**What the prophets wrote agreed with God's recorded
Word and each other**

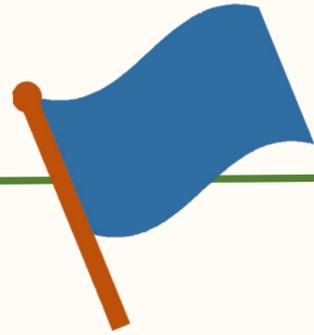
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What Happened at Mount Sinai:

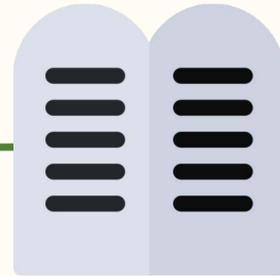
- 1. Israel came into existence first: God first created the nation of Israel at the exodus.**
- 2. Then God gave the Israelites the Law. God gave the Law to Moses, an Israelite, and He wrote it down. So in a sense, it can be said that God's Law came through the Israelites.**

**This happened
first ...**



**God made Israel
into a nation**

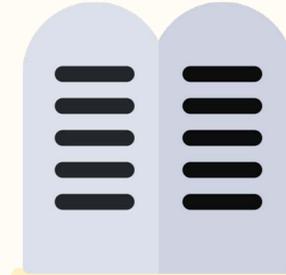
**... then this
happened**



**God gave
the Law**

THEN →

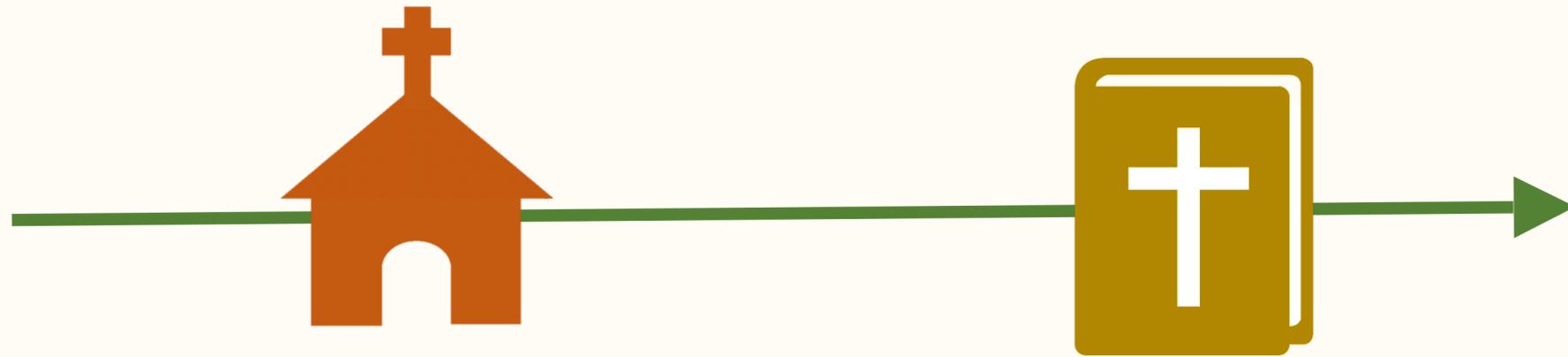
The Law



**Israel comes
under the Law,
Israel must
obey the Law**

This happened first ...

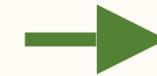
... then this happened



God built the church

God completed the Bible

THEN



The Bible



**The church comes under the Bible
The church must obey the Bible**

Biblical Faith is Related to God's Revelation, Inspiration, and the Canon of Scripture

Rom. 10:17, “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

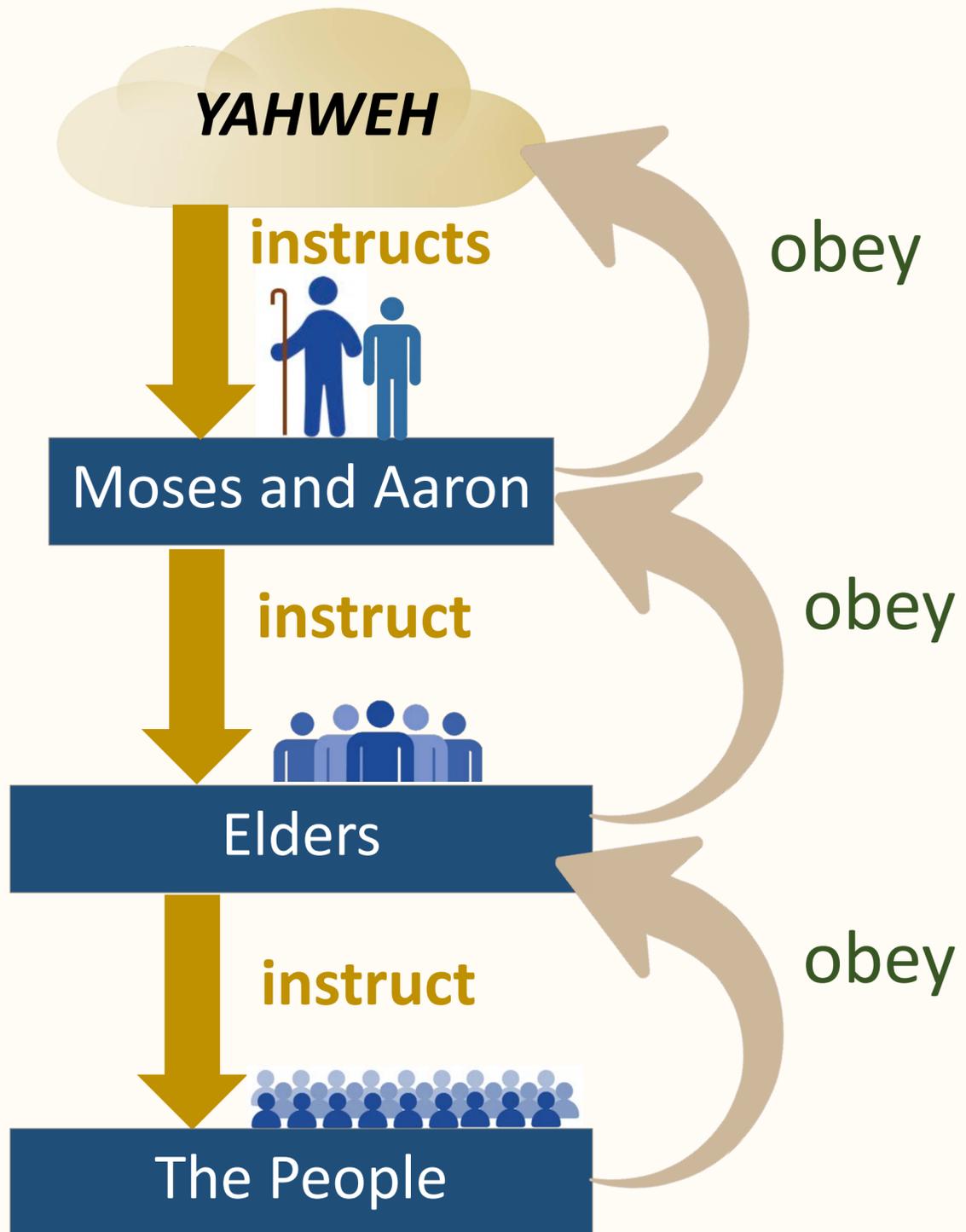
So, to give us the content necessary for faith:

- **God revealed Himself through the verbal and written word.**
- **He inspired prophets to record His word, and**
- **He set out the canon of Scripture, what words were to be included, and what were not.**

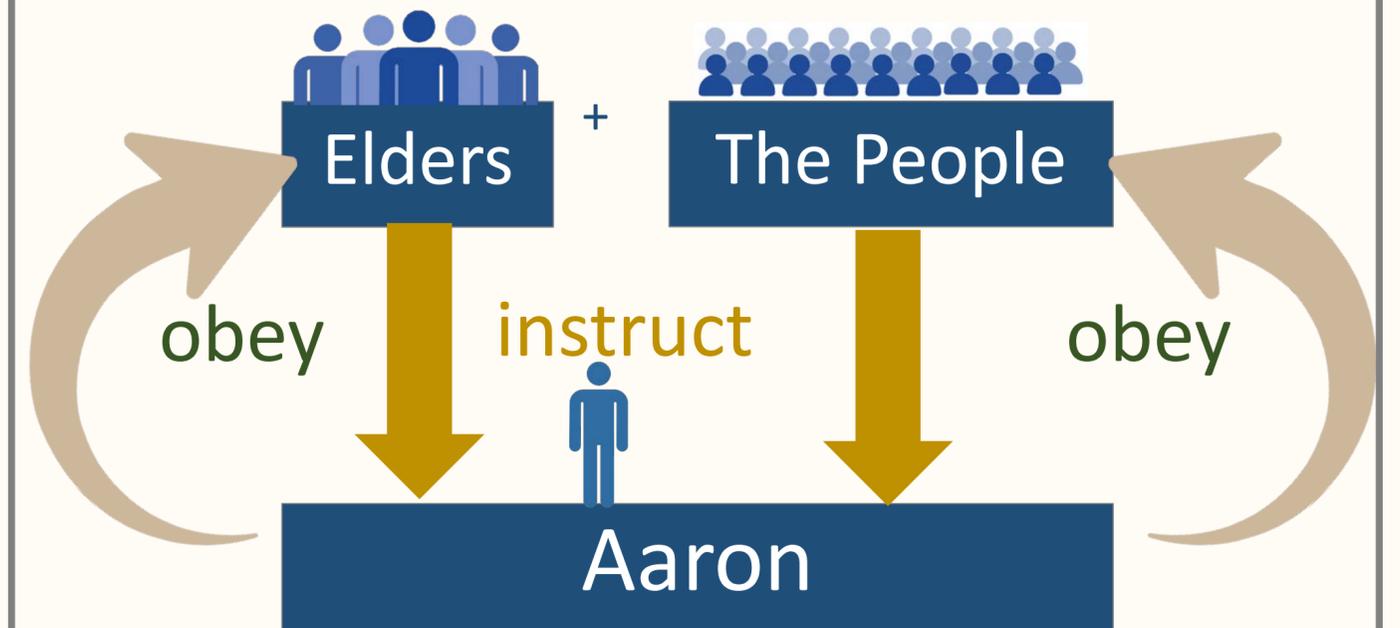
Rebellion: The Israelites' Response at Sinai

Ex. 32:1, “Now when the people saw that Moses delayed coming down from the mountain, the people gathered together to Aaron, and said to him, ‘Come, make us gods that shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.’ ”

God's Established Authority Structure



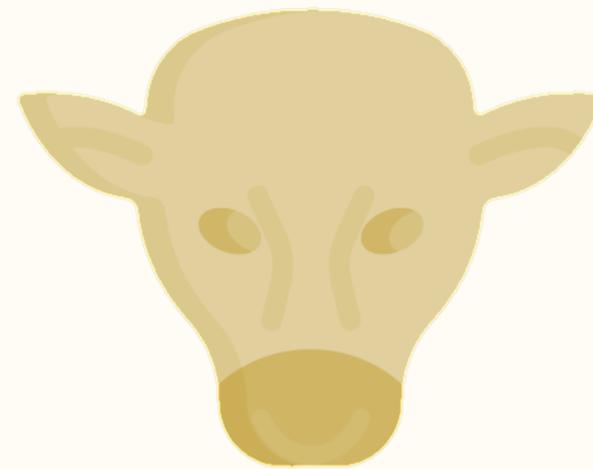
The Israelites' Authority Structure



Aaron gave in to the people

Ex. 32:4, “And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. Then they said, ‘This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!’”

Ex. 32:5, “So when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, ‘Tomorrow is a feast to the LORD.’”



Box Question: Some people believe that authority structures don't matter. They feel everyone should be equal and have the right to do whatever they want. What does God think of this?

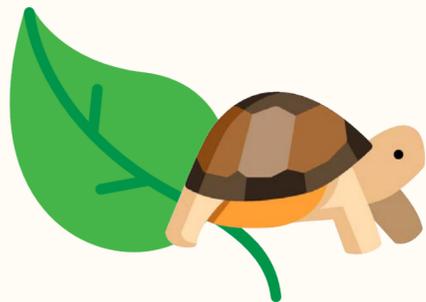
Responsible Dominion

YAHWEH



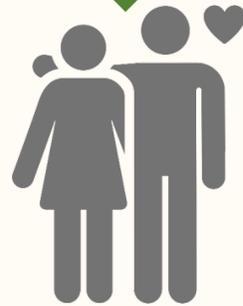
Mankind
(under-lord)

Nature and Animals



Family

YAHWEH



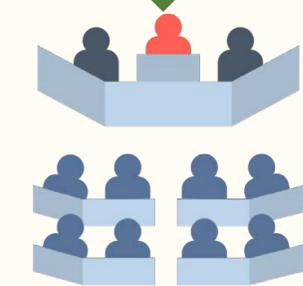
Parents

Children



Civil Government

YAHWEH



**Government
leaders**

Citizens



Ex. 32:20, “Then he took the calf which they had made, burned it in the fire, and ground it to powder; and he scattered it on the water and made the children of Israel drink it.

Ex. 32:21, “And Moses said to Aaron, ‘What did this people do to you that you have brought so great a sin upon them?’ ”

Ex. 32:25, “Now when Moses saw that the people were unrestrained (for Aaron had not restrained them, to their shame among their enemies),

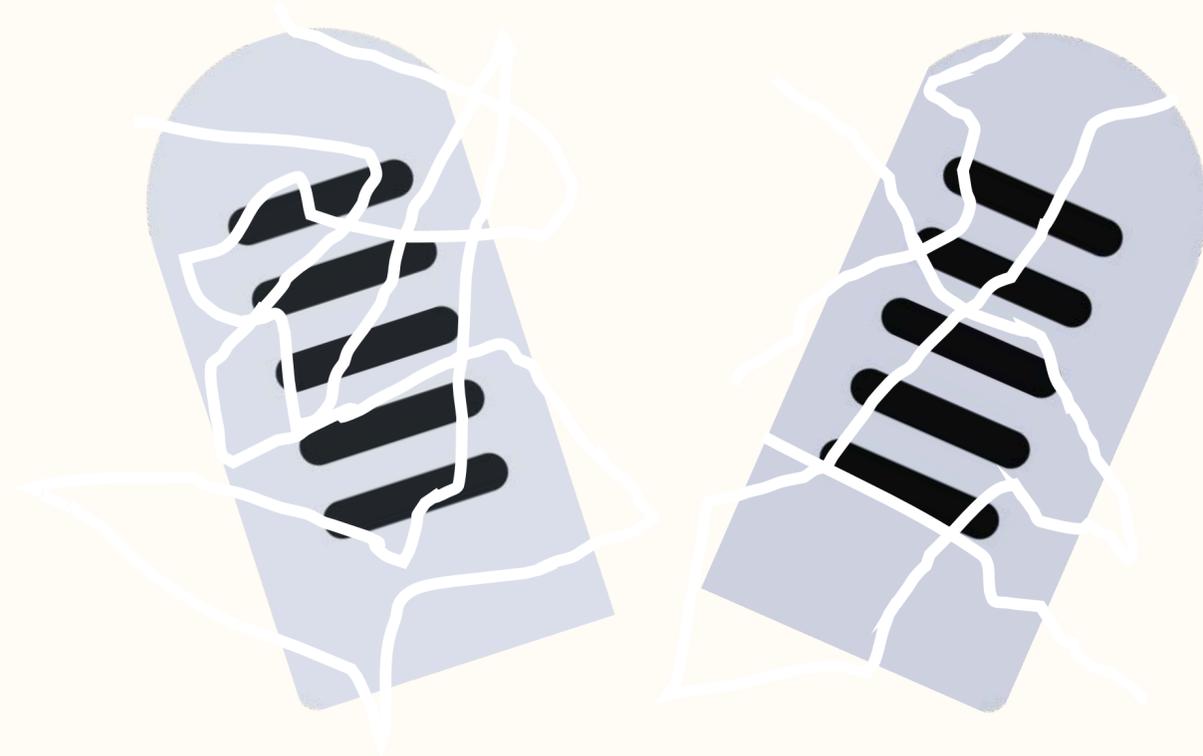
Ex. 32:26, “then Moses stood in the entrance of the camp, and said, ‘Whoever is on the LORD’S side—come to me!’ And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together to him.”

Ex. 32:27, “And he said to them, ‘Thus says the LORD God of Israel: “Let every man put his sword on his side, and go in and out from entrance to entrance throughout the camp, and let every man kill his brother, every man his companion, and every man his neighbor.” ’

Ex. 32:28, “So the sons of Levi did according to the word of Moses. And about three thousand men of the people fell that day.”

Moses “tore up” the contract

Ex. 32:19, “So it was, as soon as he came near the camp, that he saw the calf and the dancing. So Moses’ anger became hot, and he cast the tablets out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain.”



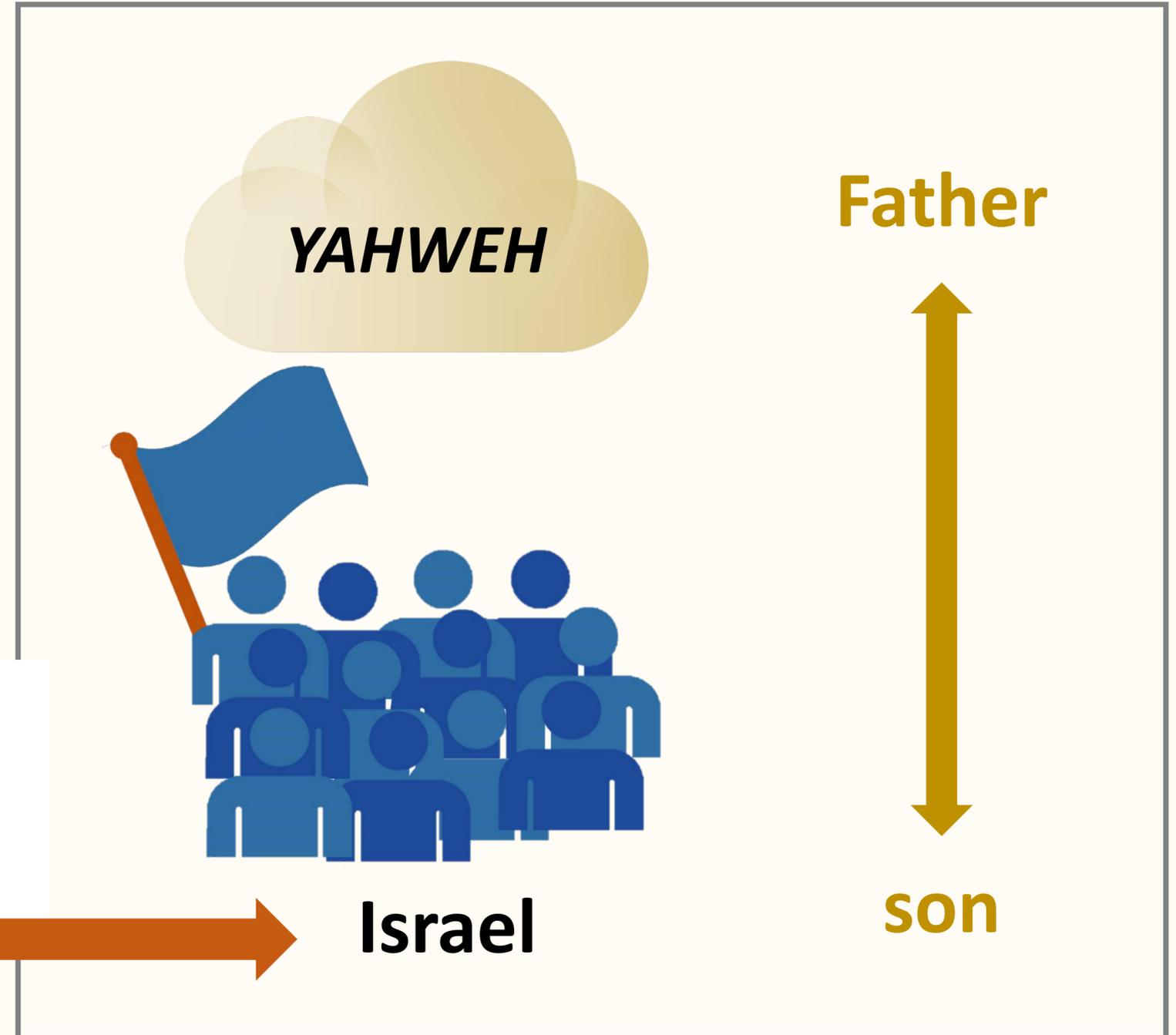
Ex. 32:9, “And the LORD said to Moses, ‘I have seen this people, and indeed it is a stiff-necked people!’”

Ex. 32:10, “ ‘Now therefore, let Me alone, that My wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them. And I will make of you a great nation.’ ”

Ex. 32:7, “And the LORD said to Moses, ‘Go, get down! For your people whom you brought out of the land of Egypt have corrupted themselves.’ ”



“your people whom you brought”



Ex. 32:9, “And the LORD said to Moses, ‘I have seen this people, and indeed it is a stiff-necked people!

Ex. 32:10, “ ‘Now therefore, let Me alone, that My wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them. And I will make of you a great nation.’ ”

Promised Saviour is to come from the tribe of Judah



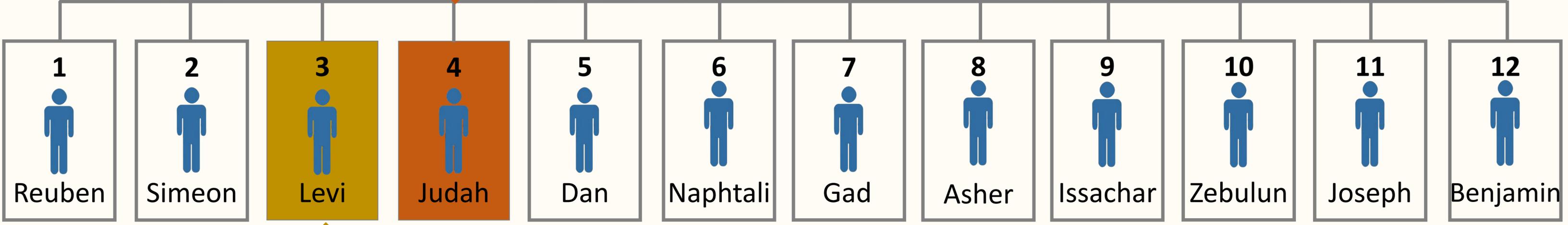
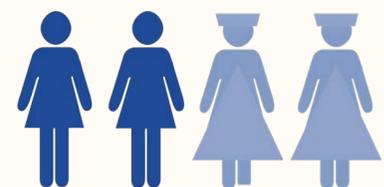
Abraham and Sarah



Isaac and Rebekah



Jacob (Israel) + 2 wives + 2 servants



Moses is from the tribe of Levi



1. God used this incident to teach Moses about leadership and to grow him spiritually into a strong leader.

Moses' Reply

Exodus 32:11–14

Ex. 32:11, “Then Moses pleaded with the LORD his God, and said: ‘LORD, why does Your wrath burn hot against Your people whom You have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand?’ ”

Commentary

Moses affirmed the truth. God tested Moses by pushing responsibility to him, saying that the people belonged to Moses (Exodus 32:7). But Moses pushed back. Moses told God no, they are not MY people, they are YOUR people. Moses focused on the truth. He reminded God that He was Israel's Father and even though the people were rebellious, they were still His.

Ex. 32:12, “Why should the Egyptians speak, and say, ‘He brought them out to harm them, to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from Your fierce wrath, and relent from this harm to Your people.”

Then **Moses used God’s revealed will to negotiate with Him**. Moses knew what God was concerned with and he argued on that basis. Moses knew that:

- God wanted the world to know Him and be saved.
- God’s plan was for the Israelites to represent Him to the whole world.
- The plan God had for drawing the world to Himself was to show people His own glory.

So Moses basically said: “You will give the wrong impression of yourself to the Egyptians if you destroy your own people! Don’t do that! This will not help you achieve your goal!”

Ex. 32:13, “Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, Your servants, to whom You swore by Your own self, and said to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven; and all this land that I have spoken of I give to your descendants, and they shall inherit *it* forever.’ ”

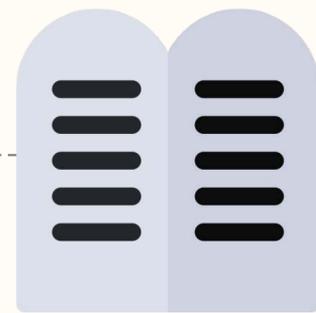
Moses showed confidence in God’s character. Moses reminded God of His promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. It was as if Moses were saying: “This is your promise that I know you will keep!”

**Ex. 32:14, “So the LORD
relented from the harm
which He said He would
do to His people.”**

Based on Moses’ interaction
with God, God decided not to
totally eliminate the people.



Other nations



Israel’s laws are
righteous and fair



Israelites must be
wise and intelligent



Which God do
they worship?

2. God used this incident to show that the way Moses interceded for the Israelites is a picture of how Jesus intercedes for all believers.

Ex. 32:30, “Now it came to pass on the next day that Moses said to the people, ‘You have committed a great sin. So now I will go up to the LORD; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin.’ ”

Deut. 9:18, “And I fell down before the LORD, as at the first, forty days and forty nights; I neither ate bread nor drank water, because of all your sin which you committed in doing wickedly in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him to anger.

Deut. 9:19, “For I was afraid of the anger and hot displeasure with which the LORD was angry with you, to destroy you. But the LORD listened to me at that time also.

Deut. 9:20, “And the LORD was very angry with Aaron and would have destroyed him; so I prayed for Aaron also at the same time.”

Because Moses pleaded with God for the people, God didn't destroy them.



Moses interceding for the people ...

... is a picture of ...

Our Real and Only Intercessor



... How Jesus intercedes for all believers

1 John 2:1, “My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.”



Moses interceding for the people ...

... is a picture of ...

Our Real and Only Intercessor



... How Jesus intercedes for all believers

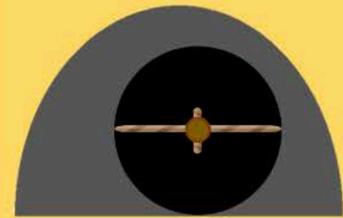
God credits righteousness to believers because of what Jesus did

man: unrighteous

man: righteous



Needs a death to pay for sin



Jesus paid the penalty of death for man's sin

Needs to live a perfect life by God's standards



Jesus lived a perfect life and imputed that to man

applied

applied

When we trust
Jesus and what
He did on the
Cross

God restores
relationship
and provides
eternal life

**1 Tim. 2:5, “For there is one God and one Mediator
between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,”**

3. God used this incident to tell the Israelites they needed to circumcise their hearts.

Physical circumcision:
Outward sign of God's
Covenant with Israel



Circumcision of the Heart:
Inward change from rebellion to
obedience that sets a person apart
to love God fully inside and out

Does not make
a person right
with God

Makes a person
right with God

**Deut. 10:16, “Therefore circumcise the foreskin of your heart,
and be stiff-necked no longer.”**

Rom. 2:29, “but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God.”

Col. 2:11, “In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ,”

Is God reliable? Or does He change His mind about things?

Num. 23:19, “God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?”

Jer. 18:7, “The instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, to pull down, and to destroy it,

Jer. 18:8, “if that nation against whom I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I thought to bring upon it.

Jer. 18:9, “And the instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it,

Jer. 18:10, “if it does evil in My sight so that it does not obey My voice, then I will relent concerning the good with which I said I would benefit it.”

Gen. 6:6, “And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.”

3. How then should we understand what happened between God and Moses when God said He changed His mind?