

¹⁹ And when the blast of the trumpet sounded long and became louder and louder, ^bMoses spoke, and ^cGod answered him by voice. Verse 16 told us this was “thunders.” In fact “thunder” of verse 16 and **voice** here are the same Hebrew word. The people of Israel even thought God’s voice was heard through thunder (Exodus 20:18-19).

John’s Gospel is to show Jesus as a contrast/comparison to Moses. See my commentary on John for all of the comparisons between Moses’ writings and John’s writings, or more specifically, Moses and Jesus. We are already seeing Jesus compared to Moses in John 1:16 as the bringer of “grace and truth” versus “the law.” See again in 1:45, 3:14, 5:45, 6:14, 6:32, 7:32, 8:5, 8:24, 9:28. John 12:29 says a thunder or angel (see commentary below 20:1) spoke from the sky. So we see, then, that **Moses** hears the voice of God through “thunder” (this verse) and an “angel” (see under 20:1), and as such, **Moses** is a picture of Jesus. In Exodus 20:19-21, then, **Moses**, like Jesus approaches the holy God on behalf of the people. The proximity of John 12:30-32 and the death of Jesus show us that the way approached the darkness of God’s wrath at Calvary on behalf of His people. **²⁰ Then the LORD came down upon Mount Sinai, on the top of the mountain. And the LORD called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.**

²¹ And the LORD said to Moses, “Go down just told him to come up in the last verse and God sent him right back down to warn the people, lest they break through ^dto gaze at the LORD, and many of them perish. ²² Also let the ^epriests who come near the LORD ^fconsecrate themselves, lest the LORD ^gbreak out against them.”

²³ But Moses said to the LORD, “The people cannot come up to Mount Sinai; for You warned us, saying, ^h“Set bounds around the mountain and consecrate it.”

²⁴ Then the LORD said to him, “Away! Get down and then come up, By the way, Deuteronomy 33:1-2 & Psalm 68:17 tells us thousands of angels (and chariots) were present here as well. you and Aaron with you. But do not let the priests and the people break through to come up to the LORD, lest He break out against them.” ²⁵ So Moses went down to the people and spoke to them.

20 And God spoke ^aall these words, Acts 7:38, Acts 7:53, Galatians 3:19, & Hebrews 2:1-2 say that angels gave the law to Moses. saying:

^b Heb. 12:21

^c Neh. 9:13; Ps. 81:7

^d 1 Sam. 6:19

^e Ex. 19:24; 24:5

^f Lev. 10:3; 21:6–8

^g 2 Sam. 6:7, 8

^h Ex. 19:12

^a Deut. 5:22