Covenants — An Old Testament Reading Guide Sterling Reformed Presbyterian Church August 6, 2017

Part 5: The Covenant with Moses

The Covenant Itself

- + Exodus 6:2-8
- ◆ Exodus 19:4-6
- + Exodus 20:1-17
- Exodus 24:1-11

Promised blessings

- The nation of Israel will be God's people, and He will be their God.
- "You shall know that I am the LORD your God, who has brought you out" (6:7).
- Israel will be God's treasured possession, a holy nation, and a kingdom of priests.

Faithful response

- * Believe in God alone.
- Keep the law, including offering the sacrifices needed because of sin.
- * Keep the promised land holy.

Jesus' fulfillment

◆ Gal. 3:21-22—The law was meant to make sin painfully clear so that believers would look to Jesus for salvation.

→ Heb. 7:23-28—Jesus is the sinless High Priest who has offered Himself up once for all (compared to the need for frequent sacrifices under previous High Priests).

Continuing promises

- → Jesus' sacrifice is the solution for the ways we break the law. He is the passover lamb, the sin offering, the scapegoat etc.
- ★ The new Israel, the church, is God's treasured possession, a holy nation, and a kingdom of priests. We should care about the holiness of the church, but we can also rest in an allpowerful Caretaker.

Old Testament Readings

- → Terms and ideas to look for: holiness/defiling, law, priesthood, chosen people, Sinai/Horeb.
- + Hosea 13:4-7—Israel repeatedly forgets who gave them their land and prosperity, and this unbelief is reason for judgment.
- ◆ Ezekiel 22:6-8, 12—Israel fails to be holy in almost every aspect of the law; language of defilement is a reminder that Israel was supposed to be a holy nation.
- ◆ Jeremiah 7:8-10—Israel is consistently condemned for putting their trust in the rituals of worship when they are not living faithfully.