

## Deuteronomy 5:22-33 Moses, a Mediator

Introduction: In our previous text Moses reminded the people of Israel that God had spoken to them from Mt. Sinai and given to them the 10 Commandments. These 10 Commandments set forth the terms of the Law Covenant between God and the nation Israel.

In this text Moses reminds the people that they had requested him from that time forward to be a mediator between God and the people. They wanted God to speak to Moses, not to them, and for Moses to relate the word of God to them.

### I. A reminder of the time when they heard God's voice V.22

- A. Back at Mt. Sinai God had spoken to the people of Israel out of the mountain.
- B. The mountain was filled with a great display of God's power and glory. (Fire, smoke, lightning, thunder and the quaking of the earth.)
- C. Out of that great display of power and glory there came a thunderous voice.
- D. It spoke loudly and clearly so that all could hear.
- E. God had never spoken directly to them before and God never spoke directly to them again. (This was a one-time event.)

### II. A reminder of the request which the people made V.23-27

- A. The people did not want God to speak directly to them again; they came to Moses and asked Moses to ask God never to do that again, V.23-24.
  - 1. They had been terribly frightened by the mighty display of God's power and by the loudness of His voice.
  - 2. They did not care to go through that again.
- B. They were aware that God is a holy and righteous God and that they were a weak and sinful people who were worthy of death; they were unworthy of having Him speak directly to them, V.25.
- C. They were afraid to experience such a thing again, V.25-56.
  - 1. They had miraculously survived the one occasion when God did speak to them.
  - 2. They were afraid that they would not survive if there was a next time.
- D. They asked that from now on Moses would go to God and let God speak to him and then come and relate God's message to them, V.27a.
- E. They promised to hear and obey whatever message Moses might bring them from God, V.2b.

### III. A reminder of God's acceptance of their request

- A. God was not offended by their request but was pleased with it, V.28.
  - 1. Their attitude showed that they were deeply aware of their own sinfulness and that they did not feel worthy of standing in His presence.
  - 2. It also pleased God that they promised to obey God's word.
- B. God told Moses that He only wished the people would always have such a humble and submissive will toward Him and His word, V. 29.
  - 1. If they would keep that spirit of submission they and their children would be greatly blessed.
  - 2. God had much rather bless than punish.
- C. Having approved their request, God instructed the people to go to their tents while He gave further instructions for them through Moses, V. 30-31.

- D. Before dismissing the people to their tents Moses admonished the people to be obedient to the word of God and promised God's blessings if they would, V.32-33.

#### IV. Moses, a type of Christ

(I will not deal with all of Moses' mediatorial work in this message, but only that which relates to this passage of scripture.)

- A. Jesus is the real Mediator between God and man. (The one and only mediator between God and all mankind,) I Timothy 2:5.
- B. Moses was not a mediator to all mankind, but only to the nation of Israel.
1. Moses brought the law to Israel.
  2. Jesus Christ brought grace and truth to all mankind.
- C. Yet the work of mediator which Moses did with Israel was a type of the work that Christ does with all mankind. (Moses was a type of Christ.)
1. Moses was a man and Christ is a man. (He is God born into human flesh.)
  2. Even as the people of Israel had difficulty in relating to an invisible God, even so men have difficulty relating to God the Father, but the people of Israel could relate to the man Moses and people today can relate to the man Jesus.
  3. Moses was a great teacher, teaching the people the words of God and Jesus is the greatest teacher of all time, relating the words of God the Father to man.
  4. The people were not frightened by the power of God when Moses brought them the word of God, and neither are people frightened away by the meek and lowly Jesus.
  5. The nation of Israel could receive great blessings from God by heeding the commands of God presented to them by Moses; anyone who will heed the words of grace and truth from God through Jesus Christ will receive everlasting life, great blessings in this life and great rewards in the next life.
  6. Moses was only a man, but he spoke with the full authority of God; Jesus Christ was also a man, but He spoke with all authority in heaven and in earth because He is God in human flesh.

Conclusion: We have no power to make decisions for the people of Israel. Neither can we make decisions for anyone of any race. But we do have the power to make decisions for ourselves. We would do well to hear and to heed the word of God. We will be eternally glad that we did.