

# (Exodus) Exodus 24:9-18

by J. Vernon McGee

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*We cannot see God directly, but we can know Him through Jesus Christ, who is the one Mediator between God and man.*

**Duration:** 5:08

**Topics:** "Expositional"

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## Description

In this sermon, the speaker emphasizes that God's thoughts and ways are far beyond human understanding, and therefore, He must reveal Himself to us. The speaker refers to a representation of God that was seen by Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and 70 elders of Israel. This representation included a paved work of a sapphire stone under God's feet, resembling the body of heaven in its clearness. The speaker highlights the importance of recognizing Jesus Christ as the mediator between God and humanity, emphasizing that we cannot approach God on our own. The sermon concludes by mentioning that Moses spent 40 days and 40 nights in the Mount, receiving instructions from God.

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## Transcript

Now, will you notice, verse 9, "...then went up Moses, and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel. And they saw the God of Israel, and there was under his feet, as it were, a paved work of a sapphire stone, and, as it were, the body of heaven in his clearness." Now, again and again, this occurs, and there is confusion, I recognize, in the way that our translation gives it. They saw the God of Israel.

Candidly, they didn't see Him. God is a spirit, and no man hath seen God at any time. They saw the representation of God, of course, and that is what you have when you get to the book of Revelation.

You feel like, when you get there, that when John's caught up to heaven, he saw a throne, and in the midst of the throne, you feel like holding your breath, well, my, we're at last going to see God. And you read that. It's nothing in the world but a representation of God.

I do not want to get into this part of the argument, but I sincerely doubt whether we shall see God, the Father, throughout eternity. I'm of the opinion that the closest we'll ever get will be to see the Lord Jesus Christ, and after all, that's the only way we can know God today is through Him. I do not know how He looks.

I do not know how He feels. I do not know how He thinks. His thoughts are way above my thoughts, and His ways are different than my ways.

Therefore, He must reveal Himself. Now, what they saw here was a representation of God, and it's quite evident there were under His feet, as it were, a paved work of a sapphire stone, and as it were, the body of heaven in His clearness. Does that tell you anything about God, my friend? Doesn't tell me a thing.

It's just representation that we have there. And upon the nobles of the children of Israel, He laid not His hand, also they saw God and did eat and drink. Now, this was a representation.

You remember later on, Moses asked that he might see God because all he'd seen had been a representation, and he wanted to see Him. And you remember that that was the plea and the question of Philip, yonder in the upper room, show us the Father, and it sufficeth us. And at that time, you remember, the Lord said to this man, he that hath seen me hath seen the Father.

You want to see God, friends, you'll have to go through Jesus Christ. And I hear a great many people today, generally it's some man giving a testimony, some earnest layman, and he talks about that he was far from God, and now he says, I can come right directly into the presence of God. No, you don't.

You have no right there. I have no right there. We don't come directly like that, friends.

There is one Mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus. Now, if you're going to come to God, you're going to come through Christ. He is the Mediator.

He's the daysman that Job talked about, that'll put one hand in God's hand, one hand in our hand, and bring us together. We don't go there on our own. We need to recognize that.

Now, will you notice, this is a tremendous representation we have here. We read now verse 13, "...and Moses rose up, and his minister Joshua, and Moses went up into the mount of God." You notice that Joshua is beginning now to get into the picture, and God was preparing him all the time to succeed Moses. He's a young man.

Now, notice what Moses said, verse 14, "...he said unto the elders, Carry ye here for us until we come again unto you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. If any man have any matters to do, let him come unto them.

And Moses went up into the mount, and a cloud covered the mount. And the glory of the Lord abode upon Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And the seventh day he called unto Moses out of the midst of the cloud, and the sight of the glory of the Lord was like devouring fire." You see, it was the glory of the Lord.

And even that was like devouring fire on the top of the mount in the eyes of the children of Israel. "...And Moses went into the midst of the cloud, and gat him up unto the mount. And Moses was in the mount forty days and forty nights." Now, during that time, he got the instructions that we have in the rest of this book.

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