**R925\_Rumination for October 16, 2022**

The **T**heme: **The Lord came Down** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com/)

The **T**ext: *And the LORD came down…* **Exodus 19:20**

The **T**hots:

1. **The Meeting between God and Moses.** Exo. 19:9

*Lo, I come unto thee in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with thee, and believe thee.*

1. The **C**onditions **L**aid Down for the **M**eeting: Exo. 19:10-15
2. *Go unto the people, and sanctify them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes.* 19:10
3. *Go not up into the mount…whosoever toucheth* [it] *shall be surely put to death:* 19:12
4. The **C**oming Down of the **L**ord on **M**ount Sinai: Exo. 19:11
5. *The third day the LORD will* ***C****ome down in the sight of all the people upon* ***M****ount Sinai.*
6. *The LORD* ***C****ame down upon* ***M****ount Sinai, on the top of the mount:*

*and the LORD* ***C****alled* ***M****oses up to the top of the* ***M****ount; and Moses went up.* Exo. 19:20

1. Thus, the Lord Came down to **M**eet **M**oses:

*Lo, I come unto thee in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with thee, and believe thee.*

Cf. The Lord Jesus **C**oming down – Heb. 10:7

*Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of Me,) to do Thy will, O God.*

1. Later**,** God **C**ame down to **M**eet **M**an at the **M**ercy **S**eat. Exo.. 25:22
2. *And there I will* ***M****eet with thee, and I will* ***C****ommune with thee from above the* ***M****ercy seat…*

Cf. Because the **S**hed Blood of the **S**in Offering had **C**overed the Mercy **S**eat – Lev. 16:15

*Then shall he kill the goat of the sin offering…and sprinkle it* [blood] *upon the mercy seat, and before* [it]

1. At the **C**ross, *God did set forth a* ***M****ercy seat, through the faith in His blood…* Rom. 3:25, YLT
2. God **C**an now **M**eet us in the **P**erson of **C**hrist Jesus Who was made a **P**ropitiation for our sins. Rom.3:25

*[*Note: *propitiation* literally is *mercy seat.]*

1. *Whom God hath set forth to be a* ***propitiation*** *through faith in His blood…for the remission of sins*
2. *He is the* ***propitiation*** *for our sins…not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.* I Jn. 2:2
3. *Herein is love…that He [God] loved us, and sent His Son to be the* ***propitiation*** *for our sins.* I Jn. 4:10
4. **The Manifestation of God’s Presence on Mt. Sinai.Exo. 19:20**
5. The **P**erson of the Lord came down on Mt. Sinai to **M**eet **M**oses. See #A above.

*And the LORD* ***came down*** *upon mount Sinai, on the top of the mount:*

*and the LORD* ***called Moses up*** *to the top of the mount.*

1. The **P**reparations of God’s **P**eople to meet God.Exo. 19:10-12, 15
2. The **P**eople **M**ust be Clean:
3. *Sanctify them today and tomorrow…and be ready against the third day;* Exo. 19:10b
4. *let them wash their clothes* Exo. 19:10c
5. Compare the **P**reparation to meet the Lord at His Supper on the first day of the week. I Cor. 11:28

*But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.*

1. The **P**rohibitions to the **P**eople: Exo. 19:10,11,12,15

*for the third day the Lord will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai...*

*set bounds unto the people... Take heed to yourselves, that ye go not up into the mount,*

*or touch the border of it*... "

1. The **P**eople were to Worship God Afar off:

*And Moses said unto the LORD, The people cannot come up to mount Sinai:* Exo. 19:23

*And He said unto Moses, Come up unto the LORD…and worship ye afar off.* Exo. 24:1

1. Even the **P**riests could not draw near: Exo. 19:24b

*Let not the priests and the people break through to come up unto the LORD…*

1. Contrast God’s **P**eople Now to come Near to Worship God: Heb. 10:19-22

*Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,*

*Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled*

*from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.*

Exo. 19:14

1. The **P**reparations of God’s **P**eople to meet God *the Third Day* Exo. 19:10-12, 15
2. The Third Day the Lord would come down to meet the people. 19:10b
3. *Sanctify them today and tomorrow…* *and be ready against the third day;* 19:11
4. *Be ready against the third day; for the third day the Lord will come down in the sight of all the people.*
5. Compare *the third day* the Lord would rise again from the dead. Mt. 16:21

*From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto His disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem,*

*and suffer many things…and be killed, and be raised again the third day.*

*And shall deliver Him to the Gentiles…to crucify Him: and the third day He shall rise again*. Mt. 20:19

* Are we Sanctified and Cleansed to **R**emember the Lord on this first day of the week and to **R**evere Him?

*Upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread…* Acts 20:7

*Heaven came down and glory filled my soul…When at the cross my Saviour made me whole*

*My sins were washed away And my night was turned to day Heaven came down and glory filled my soul*

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 925**

1. The Lord Jesus **came down** all the way from heaven to earth in order to **go up** to the cross to suffer and die there for the sins of Man as his Substitute. One thief on the cross, who was crucified with Him that same day, believed in Him and His mission to save Man, and that when He had “finished” what He came to do He would go back to Heaven where He came from. Thus, he made the request, “*Lord, remember me when Thou comest into Thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with Me in paradise*.” (Luke 23:42-43)

But there was another malefactor who was crucified on His other side. He taunted Jesus, thus, “*He saved others; Himself He cannot save. If He be the King of Israel, let him now* ***come down*** *from the cross, and we will believe Him.* (Mt. 27:42)

This thief was so wrong in mocking the Saviour Who came to save him!

Yes, he was right. Jesus came to save “others”, i.e. those who would believe in Him to be their Saviour from their sin. Hence, Jesus, after He rose again from the dead, commissioned His disciples to go into the world to proclaim, “*He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.* (Mk. 16:16).

That was why Jesus could not **come down** from the cross to save Himself. If He saved Himself, He could not save others, and that included this mocking thief!

If He **came down** from the cross, He could never be the Saviour of those who sin against God. Jesus must remain on the cross, suffer for the sins of men, including the taunts of this mocking thief, so that He could save the other believing thief and promise him, “*Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with Me in paradise.”* (Lk. 23:43)

*Jesus, to save them, from Heaven came down;*

*Suffered for them on the tree,*

*Leaving His heavenly mansion and crown;*

*Wonderful! How could it be?*

*Leaving His scepter and city of gold;*

*Welcoming sorrow and torture untold;*

*All to bring wanderers back to the fold;*

*Dying for you and for me.* Martin W. Knapp

Do you believe that Jesus ***came down*** from heaven to earth that He might ***go up*** to the cross to suffer – and that for you, so that you may go up to be with Him when He comes to take back His own to Paradise? **REFLECT.**

1. John, the apostle, wrote in his gospel in 3:14 – *As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up.* He was referring to an incident in the past history of Israel when God sent fiery serpents to bite them for their rebellion against Him –Num. 21:5-6, NRSV – *The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food. Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died.*

In order to live they had to look up to the bronze serpent that Moses made and put on a pole, as, *So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.*

Numbers 21:9, NRSV.

Thus, as the serpent was lifted up on the pole, so was Jesus lifted up on the cross; whoso looked up to Jesus on the cross would be healed, be freed from their sin and live.

Will you look up to Jesus on the cross and believe that He could take away your curse of sin and be healed? **REFLECT**

**Points To Ponder:** *Jesus came down from heaven to earth to die on your behalf;*

***L****ook to Him and* ***L****ive.*