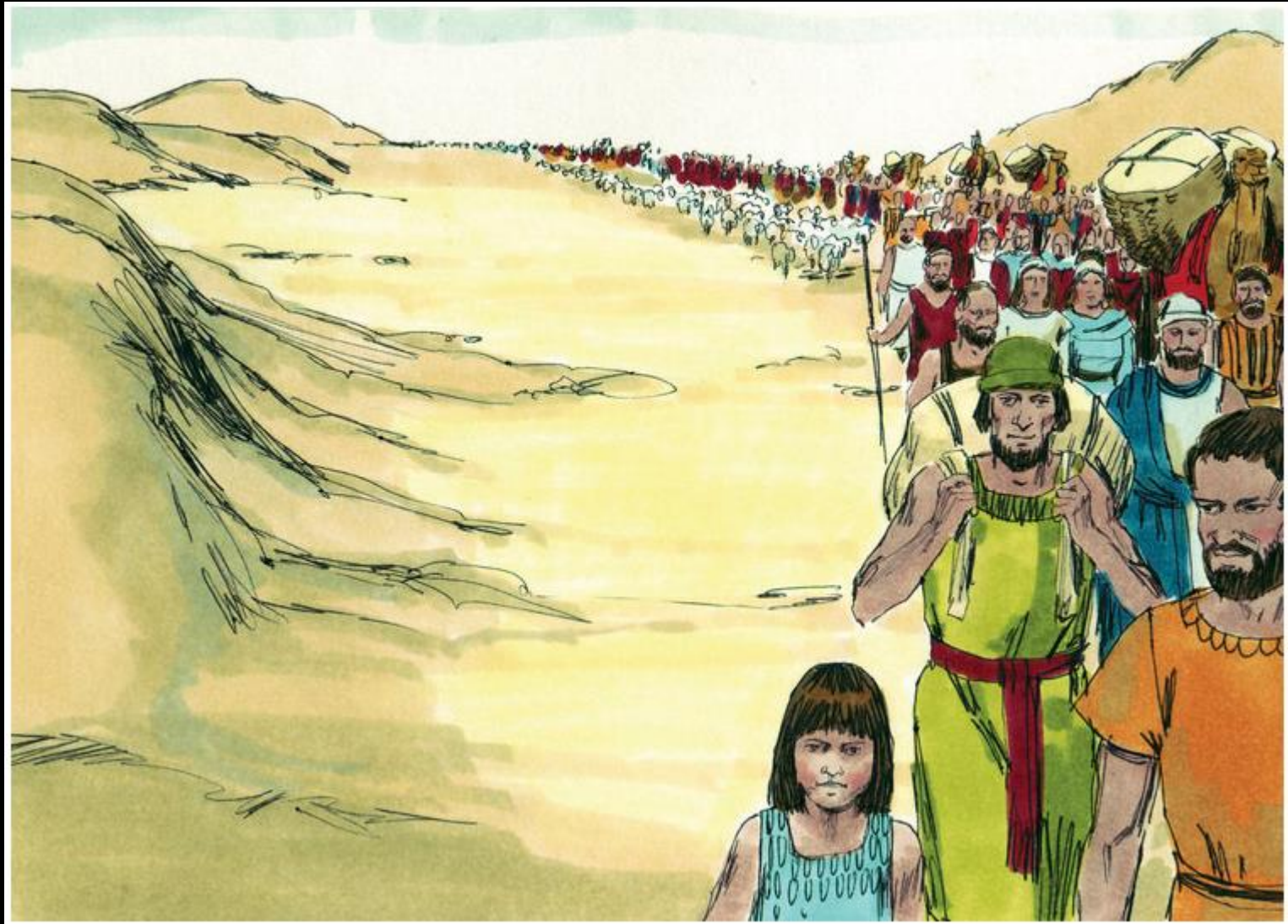


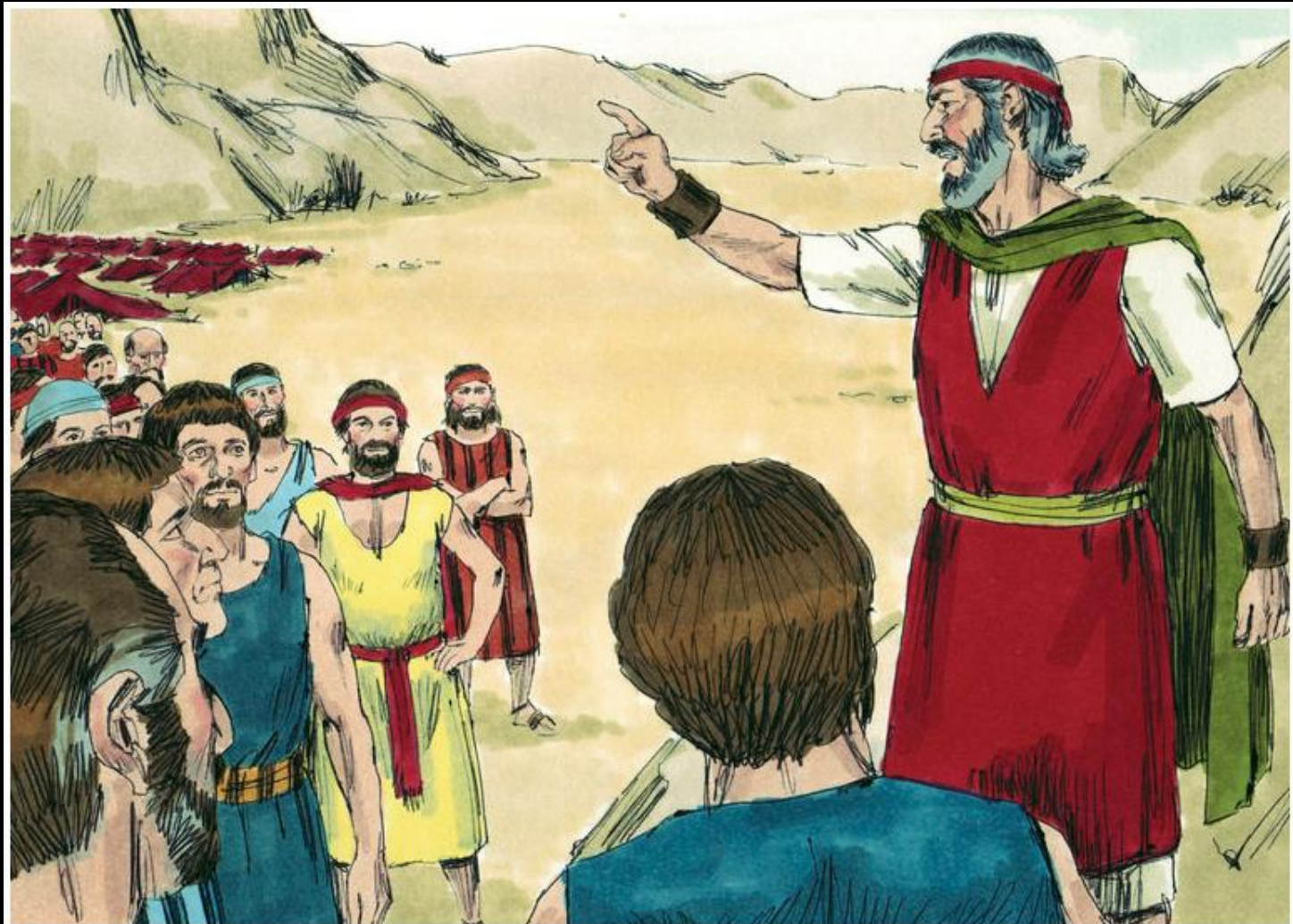
The Law



It had taken three months for the Israelites to arrive at Sinai from Egypt.



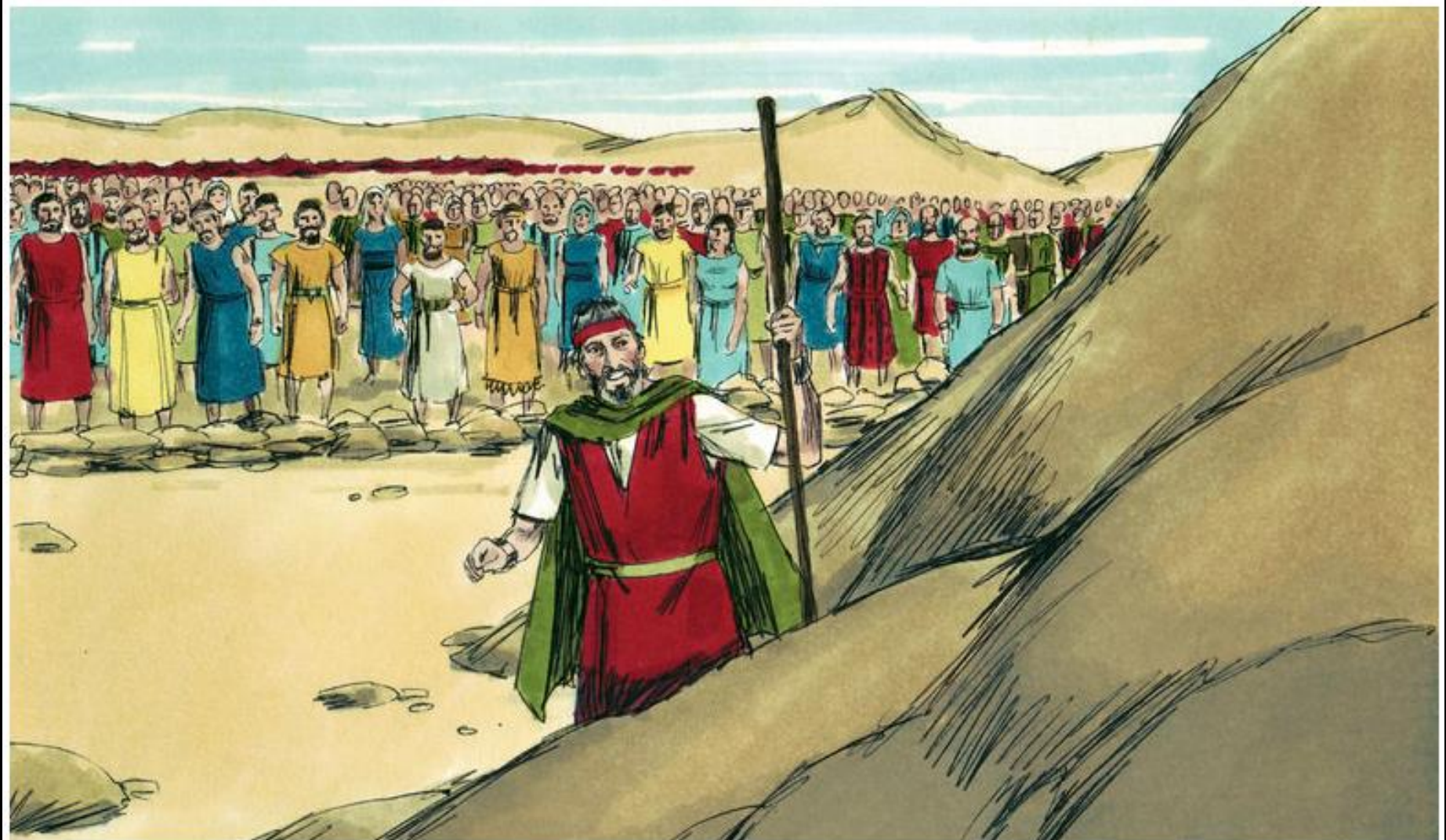
God told them to make certain preparations to meet the Lord...including washing their clothing and abstaining from sexual relations.



God told them to set a boundary around the mountain. They had to be sure that they didn't come near to or touch the mountain!



If an animal or human were even to touch the mountain when God was on it, they were to be killed!



God said:

Put limits for the people around the mountain and tell them, 'Be careful that you do not approach the mountain or touch the foot of it. Whoever touches the mountain is to be put to death. They are to be stoned or shot with arrows; not a hand is to be laid on them. No person or animal shall be permitted to live.'

Exodus 19:12-13

The instruction of boundaries
clarified their condition.



God is showing them that they are barred from him. They are separated. They can not come near to God!



It revealed that God was not to be taken lightly or approached flippantly...and to enjoy a relationship with God they would need to **know**, **respect** and **observe** His place and their place in relationship to Him.

Adam and Eve were separated from God because of their sin. After they sinned, they were put out of the garden, away from God! Israel is still separated.



Mount Sinai was covered with smoke, because the LORD descended on it in fire. **Exodus 19:18**



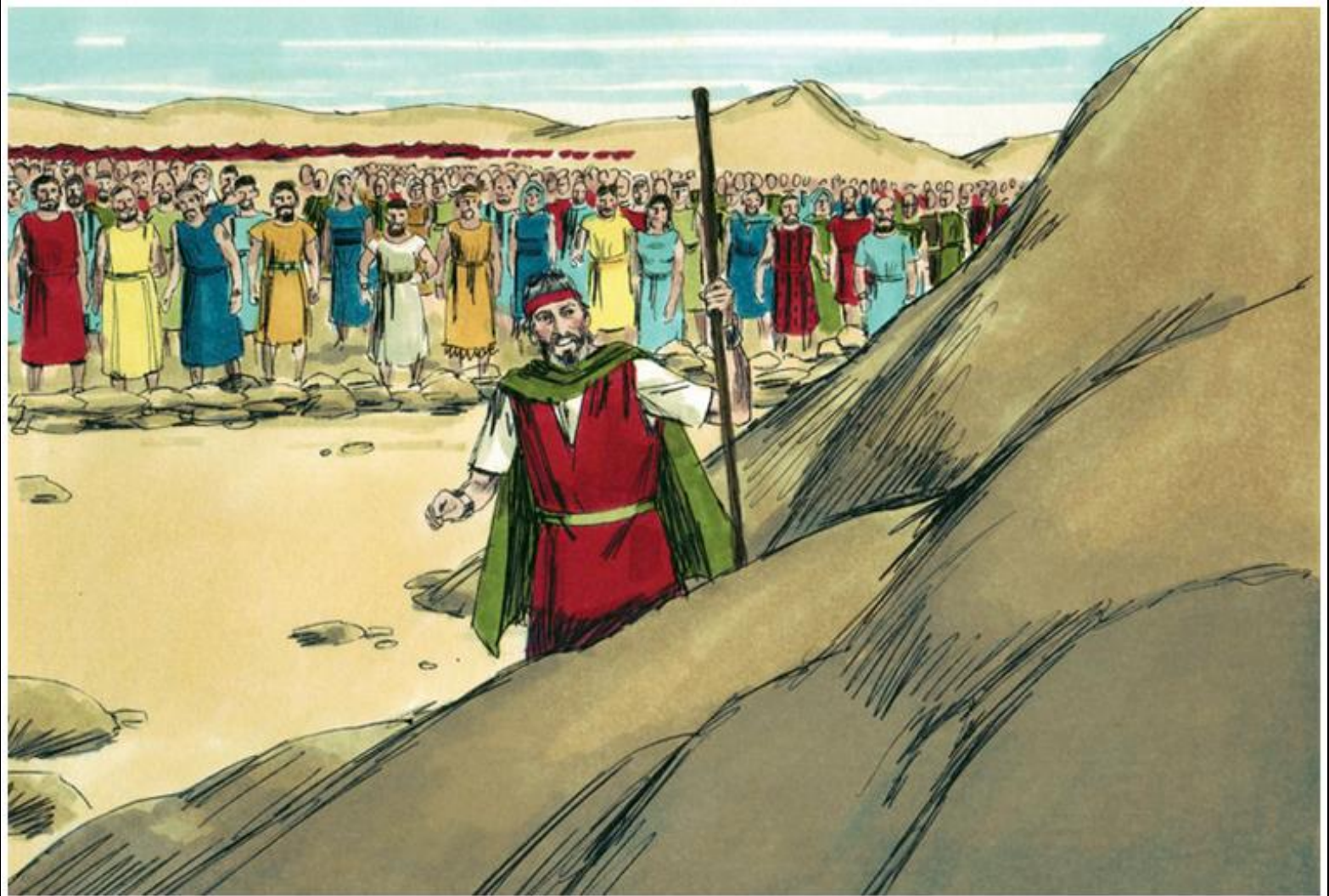
The smoke billowed up from it like smoke from a furnace, and the whole mountain trembled violently. **Exodus 19:18**



*“To the Israelites
the glory of the LORD
looked like a consuming fire
on top of the mountain.”*

Exodus 24:17

The LORD descended to the top of Mount Sinai and called Moses to the top of the mountain. So Moses went up... **Exodus 19:20**



Moses was on the mountain with God for 40 days and 40 nights, receiving God's instruction for the people. (Ex 34:28)



The Lord himself wrote the
commands and all of the law
for Israel on tables of stone so
Moses could teach the
Israelites. (Ex 32:16)

The law not only included the **10 Commandments** but 100s of other by-laws and instruction for how the Israelites were to live and function as a nation, such as:

How to handle property, crime, injustice, marriage, parenting, feuds, how to come to God, the Tabernacle.

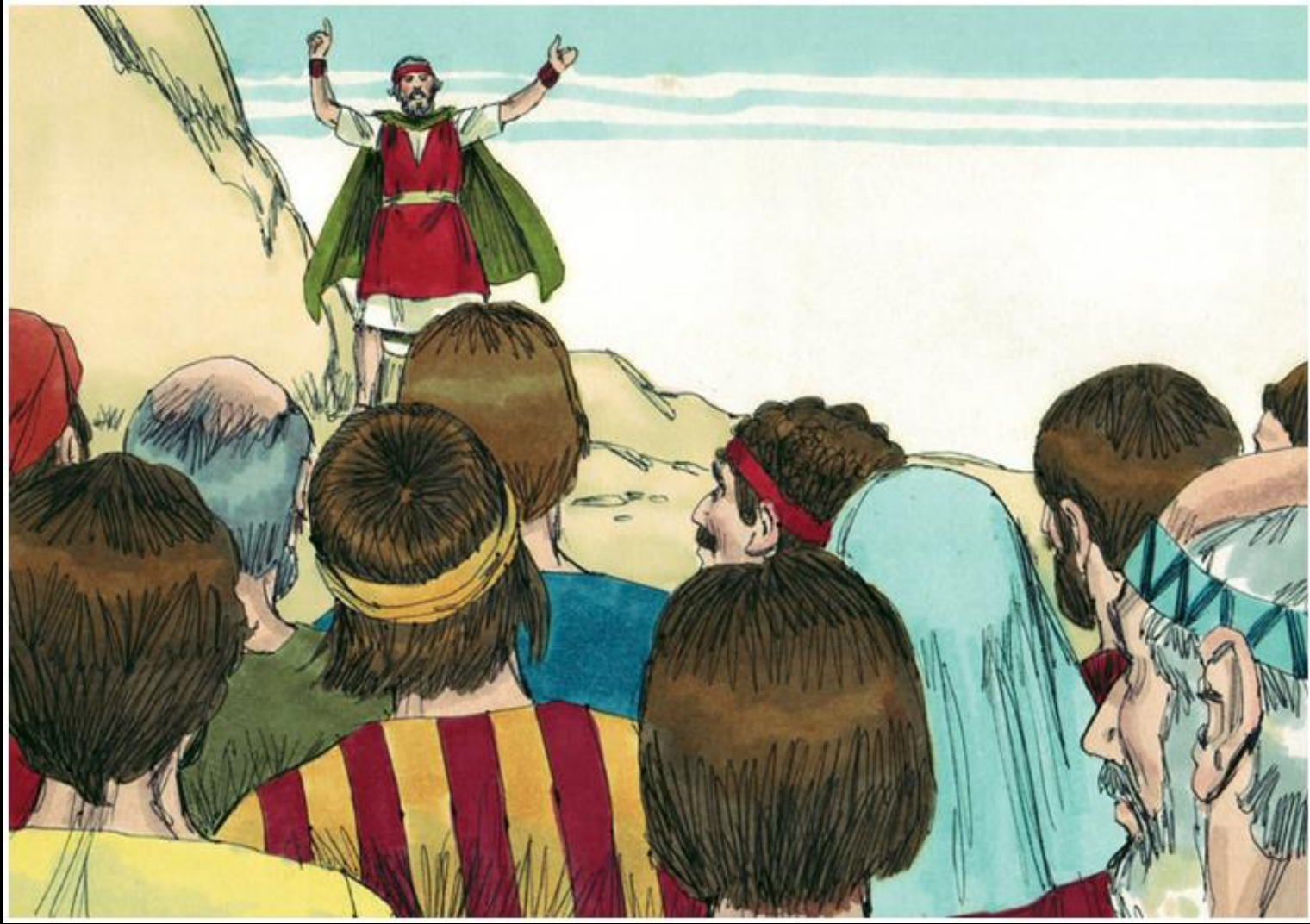
God planned to make an agreement with Israel at Mount Sinai.



The Lord promised to
bless, accept and protect
the Israelites if they
obeyed Him perfectly.

If they did not do
everything as God said.
He would **reject, punish
and curse** them.

Israel promised to obey the Lord in everything! (Ex 19:8, 24:3)



*The people all responded together,
"We will do everything the LORD
has said." So Moses brought their
answer back to the LORD.*

Ex 19:8

*Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the rules. And all the people answered with one voice and said, “**All the words that the LORD has spoken we will do.**”*

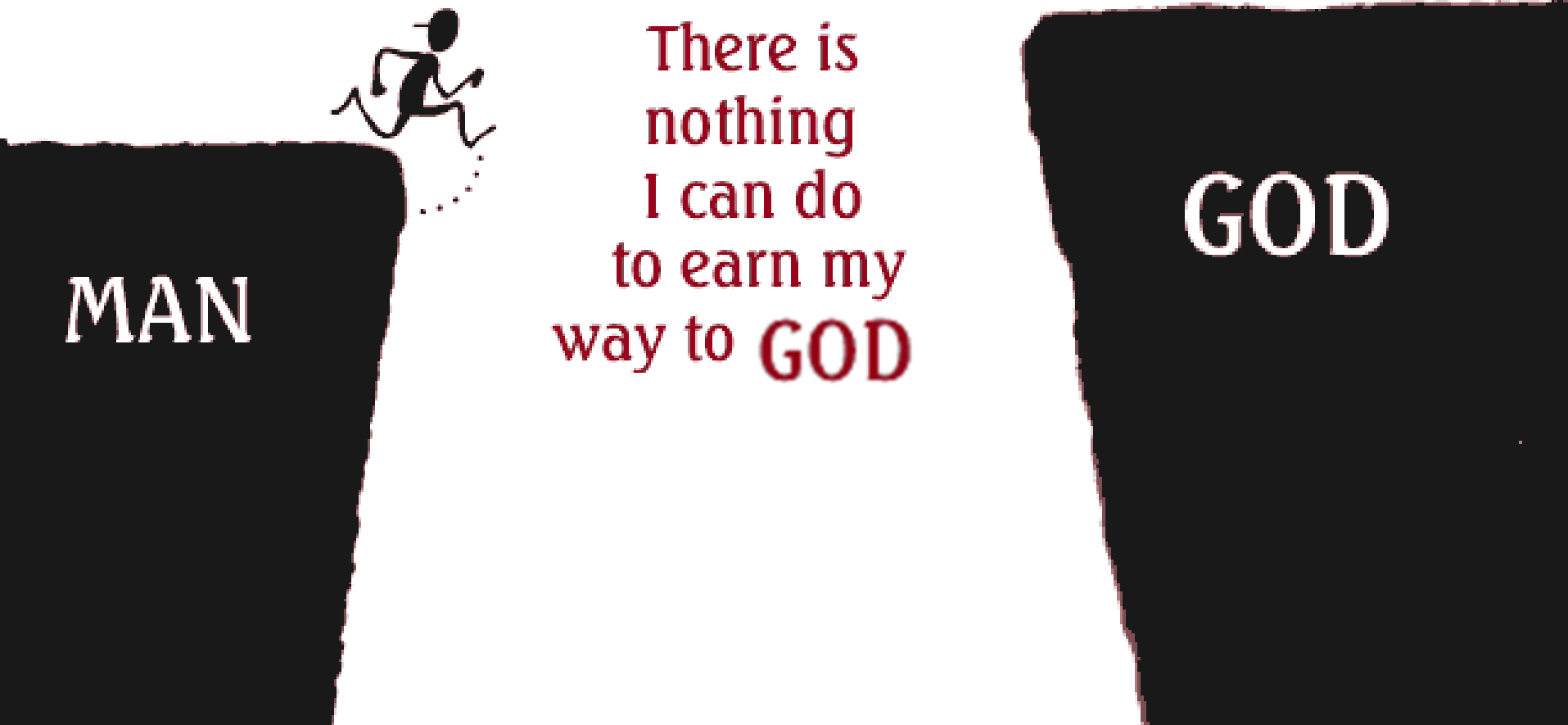
Ex 24:3

They had forgotten how
they had doubted God at
the Red Sea, how they
complained when they
didn't have food and water.



They were self-confident. They thought that they were able to obey God well enough.

They did not yet realize that their hearts were full of sin and that they could not please God by their own efforts!



In fact, while Moses was on the Mountain, receiving the details of the covenant...Israel was already breaking the contract.



Israel did not understand that God's instruction requires perfect obedience.



God's law demands
PERFECT OBEDIENCE
IN EVERYTHING
ALWAYS.

How many times did Adam and Eve break God's law before he put them out of the Garden of Eden?



James 2:10 (NIV)

“For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it!”

Would you go near a Tiger on
a chain hooked to a tree, if
just 1 of the 1,000 links in the
chain were broken?

Likewise, God will not let you or I
near him with just one sin

What if you tied a knot in a rope
in 10 places, to use to as grips
to climb up the rope. And I cut
off one of the knots...?

Likewise, you and I can not climb
up to God with just one sin.

God gave his Law **to show** all people how
sinful they are and that **it is impossible**
for anyone to make himself acceptable to
God by the things they do!



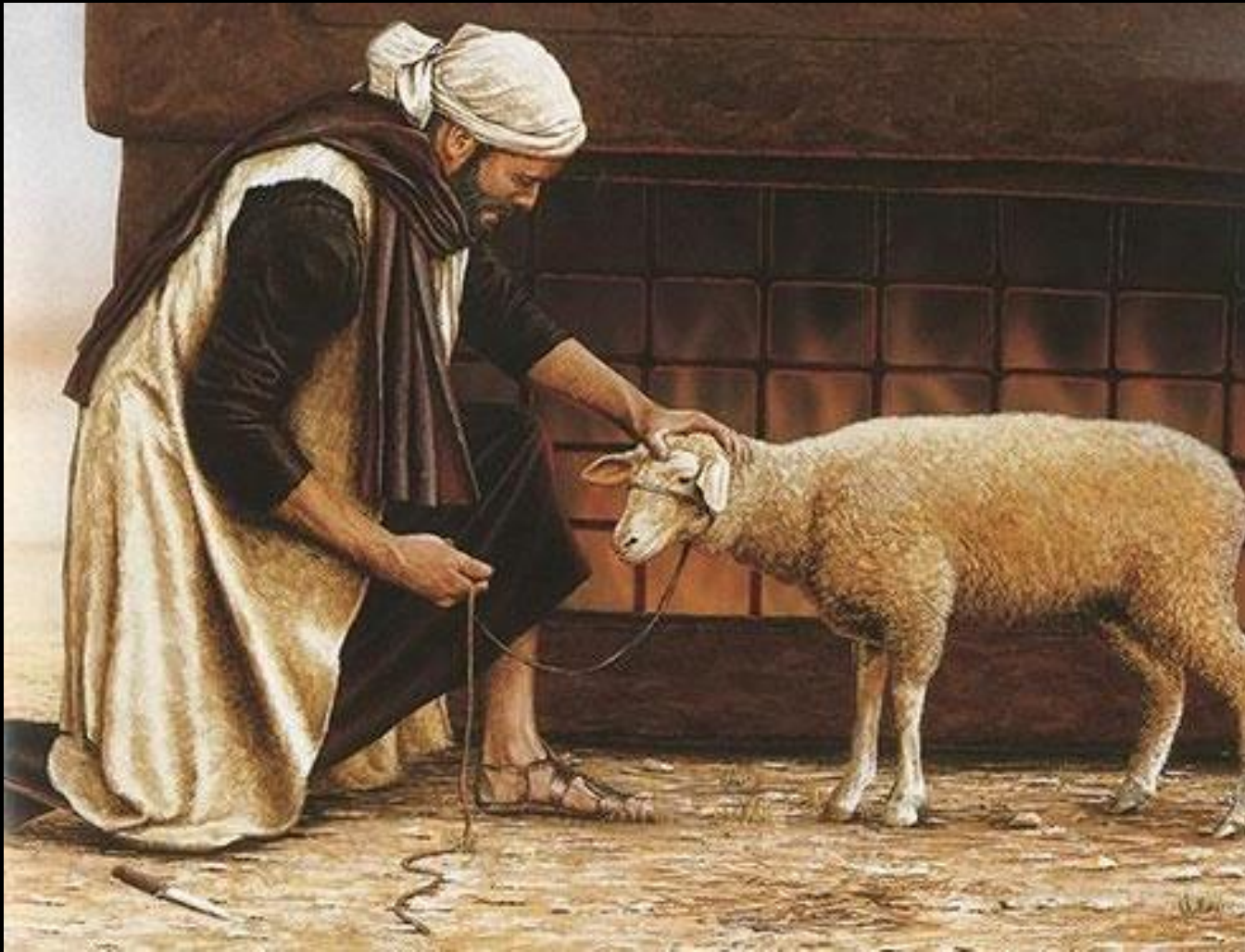
Romans 3:20 (NLT)

“No one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands. The law simply shows us how sinful we are.”

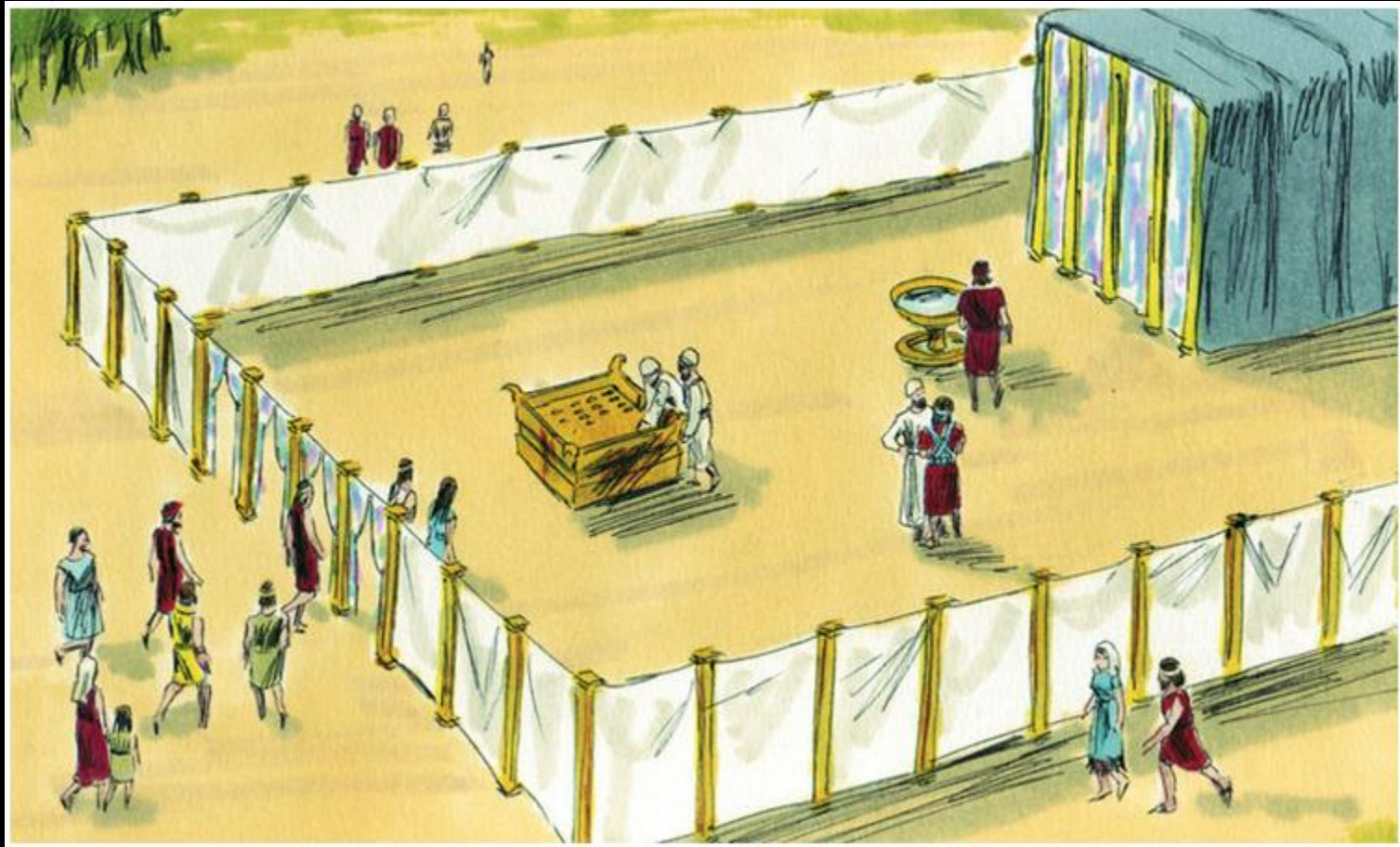
God gave his Law so that all people would
trust only in His mercy to save them
from His punishment for sin!



Through the covenant at Sinai, God was going to show Israel that they were not able to be perfect and holy and that their sin deserved death.



God was going to show them that he loved them & he was committed to his promises to bless them. He would show that he did not desire to destroy them, but **provide** an acceptable way for them to approach him without being destroyed.



Through the covenant at Sinai, God was going to not only show why God would have to send in a deliverer (*to make people acceptable*) but he also showed how the deliverer would accomplish this.

