

the people with a loud voice ~~the~~ the ten commandments in 19.1-20.18. Frightened, they ask Moses to take over intervention in possible further revelations. That happens, Moses approaching God alone, who shares with Moses laws for the broader public, 20.19-23.33. All of the words and laws, which he received, Moses laid before the people, and promised the same formally in the codex in which he wrote them (the words and laws) down. After that, he goes in Joshua's company again to Yahweh, and tarries there forty days. Yahweh speaks with him, and gives him at the end the two tablets of witness, ch.24, 31.18. During the long absence of their leader the Israelites have made the golden calf below; angry about that, Moses smashes the tablets of the law and demolishes the idol, then he pleads again with Yahweh for Israel. However, that the people remain near him at Sinai, Yahweh wants to know nothing about it; they must leave the holy place. Still, the ark and the tabernacle should substitute for the immediate presence of God, chs.32,33. Moses now receives another revelation, but it is once again words which Yahweh commands the people; once again, he remains forty days with God, in order to write the ten words on the stone tablets, ch.34. Next, the Israelites leave Sinai, led by the ark of Yahweh, Num.10.

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A naturally progressing coherence is ^{once} not recognizable here, generally speaking. After the announcement of the Decalogue, Moses waits a first, a second, and a third time with Yahweh on Sinai; always for the same purpose: to receive legal pronouncements from him. It is apparent, after the first time in 20.21, 24.3, that the writing down of all the words and the laws of Yahweh in a book and the contractual promise of the people to that was meant originally as the formal conclusion of the giving of the law, 24.3-8; presently, however, it ^{is} a mere intermezzo. Because, the celebration is hardly over, than Moses (with Joshua) goes again up