tion accord with the announcement of 33.17-23? Is that nothing more than
the fulfillment of the somewhat curious request : Let me see your
glory? One observes more closely the content of ch.34. "Be ready to-
morrow early and come up on the mountain of Sinai and place yourself
there on the top of the mountain. And don't go up with anyone, and no one
should be seen on the entire mountain, as also the sheep and the cattle
should not be taken to pasture in the mountain." Isn't that the same
kind of command to Moses as a simpler and shorter, but a clear parallel
to ch.19? Otherwise, how are there preparations for vs.4? "Then , Moses
rose early on another day and climbed the mountain of Sinai with the
tablets in his hand, and Yahweh came down in a cloud and placed himself
opposite him and proclaimed the name of Yahweh." However, has Yahweh
been a long time above? What does it mean, that he only comes down now?
Can one doubt that 34.5 stands completely on an equal footing with 19.18,20? As though
nothing previously had happened, it says again in vss. 10 and 11: "I
am on the point of making a covenant, keep, what I command to you today"
the speech is not far from a restoration, as one expects after chs.32f,
if it is not immediately the old ten words which are revealed, but another
and which up until now are non-existent, and which are written by Moses
upon the tablets. At all events, it can not be seen how else "these
words" in vs.27 could be tied in, except on those which Yahweh has
previously communicated (1. cf. Goethe's two biblical questions; first
question: What stood upon the tablets of the covenant?). At every point,
the exact parallelism of our ch. confirms itself with Ex.19,20: it
doesn't tell the third, but the first and only revelation of God on Sinai.

The connection of ch.34 with the foregoing is made possible by Moses
breaking the tablets given to him in 31.18, and so should now receive new
ones. But just at this point, the fugue shows itself with the tablets.
They are not a copy of the earlier, but they are different in ch.34, hewn