



**Sermon Title:** 'Encountering God - Obeying Him'  
**Sermon Text:** Ex 19:1-8; 20:1-17 & Matt 5:17-20  
**Date:** 15 June 08 (9.00 am)

## 1. Introduction: A Covenant-Giving God

### My Notes

*Q:* How do we know that God has met with us? *A:* When He sealed such an encounter with a covenant. Although we now relate to God through 'the new covenant in my blood' (Lk 22:20), there is much to learn from the Sinai Covenant which resulted in the giving of the Ten Commandments.

The Ten Commandments are as important and as relevant for us today as when they were given 4000 years ago.

## 2. Obedience: the Test of Divine Encounter

2.1 (Ex 19:5,8) Obedience by the Israelites proved their participation in that covenant. The New Covenant also hinges upon obedience – 'teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.' (Matt 28:20, NIV)

2.2 (Ex 20:1-11) Obedience is firstly anchored upon the *true worship* of the true and living God, as expressed in the first four of the Ten Commandments. Note the human tendency to be disobedient in this regard, even in the Church!

2.3 (Ex 20:12-17) Obedience to God is also always expressed in right relationships with fellow men, as seen in the last six commandments. We do well to note and obey the Lord Jesus Christ's far higher standard of obedience in this regard. (Matt 5:17-48)

## 3. Conclusion: We, an Obedient People?

The great lesson from the Sinai Covenant is the call to obedience. Obedience sets us apart from the world and 'the god of this world' (2 Cor 4:4) – the devil. Let us choose to be an obedient people, because we are God's covenant people, amen?