

Deuteronomy 5:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

These words the LORD spake unto all your assembly in the mount out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice: and he added no more. And he wrote them in two tables of stone, and delivered them unto me.

Analysis

The phrase 'These words the LORD spake unto all your assembly...out of the midst of the fire' emphasizes direct divine revelation. God spoke audibly to the entire congregation, not merely to Moses privately. The triad 'fire, cloud, and thick darkness' recalls the awesome Sinai theophany. The declaration 'he added no more' indicates the Ten Commandments' completeness as covenant summary—comprehensive moral law needing no addition. The inscription on 'two tables of stone' signifies permanence and divine authorship. This verse establishes Scripture's divine authority and sufficiency.

Historical Context

At Sinai (Exodus 19-20), God descended in fire, cloud, and earthquake, speaking the Ten Commandments audibly to all Israel. The terrified people begged Moses to mediate further revelation (Exodus 20:18-21). God inscribed the commandments on stone tablets (Exodus 31:18), which Moses placed in the Ark of the Covenant (Exodus 25:16). These tablets remained Israel's foundational covenant document throughout their history, discovered during Josiah's temple renovation centuries later (2 Kings 22:8).

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does God's direct, audible proclamation to all Israel establish the Ten Commandments' unique authority as foundational covenant law?
2. What does the phrase 'he added no more' teach about the completeness and sufficiency of God's moral law summarized in the Decalogue?

Interlinear Text

כָּל	אֵל	יְהוָה	דִּבֶּר	הָאֵל לָהּ	הַדְּבָרִים	אֵת
H3605	H413	H3068	H1696	H428	H1697	H853
		the LORD	spake		These words	
קִעָנָה	הָאֵשׁ	מִתּוֹךְ	בְּהָר	קִהְלָכֶם		
H6051	H784	H8432	H2022	H6951		
of the cloud	of the fire	out of the midst	in the mount	unto all your assembly		
וַיֹּסֶף	וְלֹא	גָדוֹל	קוֹל	וְהָעֲכָפָה		
H3254	H3808	H1419	H6963	H6205		
and he added no more		with a great	voice	and of the thick darkness		
אֵלַי	וַתֵּן	אֲבָנֵי יִם	לְחֵת	שְׁנֵי	עַל	וַיִּכְתֹּב
H413	H5414	H68	H3871	H8147	H5921	H3789
	and delivered	of stone	tables	them in two		And he wrote

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 31:18 (Parallel theme): And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God.

Exodus 24:12 (Word): And the LORD said unto Moses, Come up to me into the mount, and be there: and I will give thee tables of stone, and a law, and commandments which I have written; that thou mayest teach them.

Deuteronomy 5:4 (References Lord): The LORD talked with you face to face in the mount out of the midst of the fire,

Deuteronomy 4:36 (Word): Out of heaven he made thee to hear his voice, that he might instruct thee: and upon earth he shewed thee his great fire; and thou heardest his words out of the midst of the fire.

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