

# Exodus 19:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And be ready against the third day: for the third day the LORD will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai.

## Analysis

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**And be ready against the third day: for the third day the LORD will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai.**

The 'third day' pattern appears throughout redemptive history: Abraham and Isaac (Genesis 22:4), Israel's preparation here, Hosea's prophecy (Hosea 6:2), Jonah in the fish, Christ's resurrection—the third day marks divine intervention and new beginnings. God 'coming down' (יָרַד, yered) reverses Babel's presumption (humans going up to make a name); here God descends in grace to establish His name and covenant. The descent happens 'in the sight of all the people'—this isn't mystical experience for the elite but public revelation witnessed by 600,000+ men plus women and children. God's self-disclosure to Israel is empirically verifiable, grounding faith in historical event, not subjective feeling.

## Historical Context

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The 'third day' motif carries resurrection significance, though its full meaning wouldn't be clear until Christ. Mount Sinai becomes the stage for the most dramatic theophany in human history, witnessed by potentially two million people.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

## Study Questions

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1. What is the significance of the 'third day' pattern throughout biblical history?
2. How does God's public descent before all Israel differ from mystical or private religious experiences?

## Interlinear Text

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וְהָיָה H1961	וְכָכָה יִמְ H3559	בַּיּוֹם H3117	הַשְּׁלִישִׁי H7992	כִּי יִבֶּן H3588	בַּיּוֹם H3117	הַשְּׁלִישִׁי H7992
	And be ready	day	against the third		day	against the third
יָרֵד H3381	יְהוָה H3068	לְעֵינֵי H5869	כָּל H3605	הָעָם H5971	עַל H5921	הָרֹם H2022
will come down	the LORD	in the sight		of all the people		upon mount
סִינַי: Sinai H5514						

## Additional Cross-References

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**Exodus 34:5** (References Lord): And the LORD descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD.

**Exodus 19:16** (Parallel theme): And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that was in the camp trembled.

**Deuteronomy 33:2** (Sin): And he said, The LORD came from Sinai, and rose up from Seir unto them; he shined forth from mount Paran, and he came with ten thousands of saints: from his right hand went a fiery law for them.

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