

# Exodus 24:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Moses alone shall come near the LORD: but they shall not come nigh; neither shall the people go up with him.

## Analysis

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**And Moses alone shall come near the LORD: but they shall not come nigh; neither shall the people go up with him.**

This verse participates in the climactic covenant ratification ceremony—Israel formally enters covenant relationship with YHWH. The ritual involves blood sprinkling (connecting God and people), meal fellowship (communion in God's presence), and witnessing theophany (seeing God's glory). These elements combine to seal covenant: verbal assent (ch. 19), written law (v. 4), sacrificial blood (vv. 5-8), and communal meal (vv. 9-11). The pattern prefigures New Covenant: Christ's blood establishes eternal covenant, and believers commune with God through the Lord's Supper.

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern covenant ceremonies involved oaths, witnesses, sacrifices, and curses for violation. Israel's ceremony incorporated these elements but uniquely emphasized blood as binding agent and God's direct participation.

## 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. How does this law reveal God's character—His justice, mercy, or holiness?
2. What New Testament principles build upon or fulfill this Old Testament regulation?

## Interlinear Text

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יָגֵשׁ	וַיָּשָׂה	לְבַדּוֹ	אֶל	יְהוָה	וְהָיָה	לְאֵל
alone shall come near	And Moses	H905	H413	the LORD	H1992	H3808
H5066	H4872			H3068		
יָגֵשׁ	וְהָיָה	לְאֵל	וַיַּעַל	עַמּוֹ:		
alone shall come near	neither shall the people	H3808	go up	H5973		
H5066	H5971		H5927			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Exodus 24:13** (References Moses): And Moses rose up, and his minister Joshua: and Moses went up into the mount of God.

**Exodus 24:18** (References Moses): And Moses went into the midst of the cloud, and gat him up into the mount: and Moses was in the mount forty days and forty nights.

**Exodus 24:15** (References Moses): And Moses went up into the mount, and a cloud covered the mount.