

Exodus 24:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD, and all the judgments: and all the people answered with one voice, and said, All the words which the LORD hath said will we do.

Analysis

And Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD, and all the judgments: and all the people answered with one voice, and said, All the words which the LORD hath spoken will we do.

Moses reports all God's words (Ten Commandments) and judgments (mishpatim, chs. 21-23). The people respond unanimously: 'All...we will do' (כל אשר-דיבר יהָה, kol asher-dibber YHWH na'aseh). This is covenant ratification's first stage—verbal assent. Verse 7 repeats with added 'we will hear'—reversing the proper order (hear then do). Israel's overconfidence ('we will do') doesn't account for indwelling sin. Within weeks they'll violate the second commandment (golden calf). Human vows fail; Christ's obedience succeeds. He alone says 'I always do what pleases Him' (John 8:29).

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern treaty ratifications involved verbal oaths by vassals. Israel's unanimous 'we will do' legally binds them to covenant terms. Their subsequent failure demonstrates human inability to keep the law perfectly.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. What does Israel's confident 'we will do' reveal about human nature's self-assessment?
2. How does Israel's covenant failure point to the necessity of Christ's perfect obedience?

Interlinear Text

וַיָּבֹא מֹשֶׁה רַבִּים וַיֹּסֶף רַבִּים וְכֹל אֶת־
came And Moses and told and all the people H853 H3605 All the words
H935 H4872 H5608 H5971 H1697

וְכֹל אֶת־יְהוָה כֹּל הַמִּשְׁפָטִים וְכֹל
of the LORD H853 H3605 and all the judgments answered H3605
H3068 H4941 H6030

וְכֹל קְלִי אָמַר וְאָמַד כֹּל וְכֹל
and all the people voice with one and said H3605 H1697 All the words H834
H5971 H6963 H259 H559 H1697

וְעֹשֶׂה: יְהוָה דָבָר
hath said of the LORD will we do
H1696 H3068 H6213

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 19:8 (Word): And all the people answered together, and said, All that the LORD hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned the words of the people unto the LORD.

Exodus 24:7 (References Lord): And he took the book of the covenant, and read in the audience of the people: and they said, All that the LORD hath said will we do, and be obedient.

Joshua 24:22 (References Lord): And Joshua said unto the people, Ye are witnesses against yourselves that ye have chosen you the LORD, to serve him. And they said, We are witnesses.

Deuteronomy 5:1 (Judgment): And Moses called all Israel, and said unto them, Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and keep, and do them.

Deuteronomy 6:1 (Judgment): Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it:

Deuteronomy 4:1 (Judgment): Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do them, that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the LORD God of your fathers giveth you.

Deuteronomy 4:5 (Judgment): Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the LORD my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it.

Deuteronomy 4:45 (Judgment): These are the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments, which Moses spake unto the children of Israel, after they came forth out of Egypt,
