

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' (כָּל אֲשֶׁר־דִּבֶּר יְהוָה נַעֲשֶׂה, 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

הָדָבָר יָמָּ	כָּל	אֵת	הָעָם	וַיֹּסֶף רַ	מֹשֶׁה	וַיָּבֹא
All the words	and all the people	came	And Moses	and told		
H1697	H3605	H853	H5971	H5608	H4872	H935
כָּל	וַיַּעַן	הַמִּשְׁפָּטִים	כָּל	וַיֹּאמֶר	יְהוָה	הַ
answered	and all the judgments	of the LORD				
H6030	H4941	H3068	H3605	H853		
אֲשֶׁר	הַדָּבָר יָמָּ	כָּל	וַיֹּאמֶר וְ	אֶחָד	קוֹל	הָעָם
All the words	and said	with one	voice	and all the people		
H834	H1697	H3605	H559	H5971		
נַעֲשֶׂה:	יְהוָה	דָּבָר				
will we do	of the LORD	hath said				
H6213	H3068	H1696				

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,