

## Exodus – Chapter 34 Study Questions

1. **Exodus 34:6–7** What does the proclamation of God’s name signify?

What character attributes are listed here?

Footnote p. 60, 34:6-7 The proclamation of God's name

**CCC 214** God, "HE WHO IS", revealed himself to Israel as the one "abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness". These two terms express summarily the riches of the divine name. In all his works God displays, not only his kindness, goodness, grace and steadfast love, but also his trustworthiness, constancy, faithfulness and truth. "I give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness." He is the Truth, for "God is light and in him there is no darkness"; "God is love", as the apostle John teaches.

2. **Exodus 34:6** What various meanings does the Hebrew word *hesed* have?

As an inner requirement of the covenant between Yahweh and Israel, what does God expect from Israel, and how does God show his commitment?

Of what NT doctrine is the revelation of *hesed* the OT foundation?

**Word Study: Merciful Love** (p. 62)

3. **Exodus 34:7** What does it mean in practice for the iniquity of the fathers to be “visited” on their children down to the third and fourth generation?

Can you think of some examples of this?

How is this “visitation” offset by fathers who turn away from their iniquity?

**Who sinned?** (See p. 2)

4. **Exodus 34:10–26** In the renewal of the Sinai covenant, what do its terms abbreviate?

Which law has been noticeably added?

What is the effect of God’s speaking only to Moses rather than to the people?

Footnote p. 61, 34:10-26 A representative list

5. **Exodus 34:12–16** Why does God warn the chosen people to be careful not to make a covenant with the inhabitants of the Promised Land?

For example, why is it dangerous to take a spouse who worships other gods?

How might this warning apply to Christians who marry persons of non-Christian religions or of no religion at all?

**Psalms 106:36** They served their idols, which became a snare to them.

Footnote p. 61, 34:15-16 The warning against idolatry

**1 Cor 7:12-14** To the rest I say—I and not the Lord—that if any believer has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he should not divorce her. And if any woman has a husband who is an unbeliever, and he consents to live with her, she should not divorce him. For the unbelieving husband is made holy through his wife, and the unbelieving wife is made holy through her husband. Otherwise, your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy.

6. **Exodus 34:29** To what does the Hebrew expression for “his face shone” refer?

What description by the evangelist Matthew recalls this episode?

Footnote p. 62, 34:29 His face shown

7. **Exodus 34:29** When a person has an intense experience of human or divine love, how might his face change?

Has this experience happened to you or someone you know?

How long did the change of expression last?

8. **Exodus 34:33** According to 2 Cor 3:18 , what happens to those who behold the Lord “with unveiled face”?

Have you experienced Paul's interpretation of the veil in your relationship with the Lord?

**Footnote p. 61, 34:33 Veil**

**2 Cor 3:15-18** Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

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### **Who Sinned?**

**Exodus 20:4-6** (Recorded early in Moses’ ministry)

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

**Deuteronomy 24:16** (Recorded later in Moses’ ministry)

Parents shall not be put to death for their children, nor shall children be put to death for their parents; only for their own crimes may persons be put to death.

**Ezekiel 18:1-4** (Approximately 580 BC)

The word of the LORD came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

**John 9:1-3** A Man Born Blind Receives Sight (Approximately 30 AD)

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "**Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?**" **Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him.**