

## THE FRIGHTFUL GIVING OF THE COVENANT AT SINAI

### Exodus 19:16-20

<sup>16</sup>So it came about on the third day, when it was morning, that there were thunder and lightning flashes and a thick cloud upon the mountain and a very loud trumpet sound, so that all the people who *were* in the camp trembled. <sup>17</sup>And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain.

<sup>18</sup>Now Mount Sinai *was* all in smoke because the LORD descended upon it in fire; and its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked violently. <sup>19</sup>When the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke and God answered him with thunder. <sup>20</sup>The LORD came down on Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain; and the LORD called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.

### Exodus 20:18-21 (following the giving of the 10 Commandments)

<sup>18</sup>All the people perceived the thunder and the lightning flashes and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw *it*, they trembled and stood at a distance. <sup>19</sup>Then they said to Moses, “Speak to us yourself and we will listen; but let not God speak to us, or we will die.” <sup>20</sup>Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid; for God has come in order to test you, and in order that the fear of Him may remain with you, so that you may not sin.” <sup>21</sup>So the people stood at a distance, while Moses approached the thick cloud where God *was*.

### Deut 4:10-13

<sup>10</sup>“Remember the day you stood before the LORD your God at Horeb, when the LORD said to me, ‘Assemble the people to Me, that I may let them hear My words so they may learn to fear Me all the days they live on the earth, and that they may teach their children.’ <sup>11</sup>“You came near and stood at the foot of the mountain, and the mountain burned with fire to the *very* heart of the heavens: darkness, cloud and thick gloom. <sup>12</sup>“Then the LORD spoke to you from the midst of the fire; you heard the sound of words, but you saw no form—only a voice. <sup>13</sup>“So He declared to you His covenant which He commanded you to perform, *that is*, the Ten Commandments; and He wrote them on two tablets of stone.

### Deut 5:22-27 (following the giving of the 10 Commandments)

<sup>22</sup>“These words the LORD spoke to all your assembly at the mountain from the midst of the fire, *of* the cloud and *of* the thick gloom, with a great voice, and He added no more. He wrote them on two tablets of stone and gave them to me. <sup>23</sup>“And when you heard the voice from the midst of the darkness, while the mountain was burning with fire, you came near to me, all the heads of your tribes and your elders. <sup>24</sup>“You said, ‘Behold, the LORD our God has shown us His glory and His greatness, and we have heard His voice from the midst of the fire; we have seen today that God speaks with man, yet he lives. <sup>25</sup>‘Now then why should we die? For this great fire will consume us; if we hear the voice of the LORD our God any longer, then we will die. <sup>26</sup>‘For who is there of all flesh who has heard the voice of the living God speaking from the midst of the fire, as we *have*, and lived? <sup>27</sup>‘Go near and hear all that the LORD our God says; then speak to us all that the LORD our God speaks to you, and we will hear and do *it*.’