

of their becoming God's people, but was given to show how they were to act as God's people, how they were to show forth His righteousness. There is a very excellent note on chapter 19 in the Scofield Bible. Unfortunately, the outlook of the Scofield notes on Galatians was entirely different than the outlook of those on Exodus. The one in Galatians says that here at Sinai Israel rashly accepted the law. Of course, it was not rash to do what God asked them to do. It was what anyone with any gratitude would have to do, after the wonderful things that God had done in delivering them from Egypt. That note in the Scofield Bible in Galatians was unfortunate, but I am very glad that it was not put at this point in Exodus where we are considering what really happened. At that place there is a very excellent note. This covenant was a part of God's plan. It is the reason that He delivered them from Egypt and is a vital part of His economy.

If Israel had turned and said, "We will not accept your covenant; we refuse to obey your commandments or to accept your law," it would have been just the same as what happened a little later when they refused to enter Palestine at His order and He made them wander forty years in the wilderness until all of them were dead and a new generation had grown up. It would have been that, only much worse, for them to face God and say, No, we won't be so rash as to try to do what you want us to do. We will reject your law and your covenant. In #1 we do not have a case of God giving the people a chance to say whether they will follow Him or not. He has already redeemed His people, and in chapter 19 He is giving them a chance to show their gratitude for His redemption by declaring their desire to do what He wants and to enter into the covenant with Him. They must do this if they have any gratitude at all for what He has done! When we prepared the New Scofield Reference Bible we kept the excellent note at Exodus 19 and removed the unfortunate one in Galatians. This was the unanimous action of the revision committee.

I shall call 2) *The Ten Words*, because this is the phrase the Hebrew uses. In English it is often translated the Ten Commandments, but the Hebrew is simply "the ten words" (Ex. 20:1-17). These ten words give in brief form a summary of the law of God and His rela-