**Show Me Your Glory**

**Introduction:**

Moses had been on Mount Sinai for forty days. The people decided to build a golden calf to worship. Moses came down, saw this, and broke the two tablets of stone. Three thousand Israelites were killed because of their idolatry. God told Moses that He was not going to be in their midst anymore. This is further seen by a tent being set up outside the camp where Moses would go to speak to Jehovah. Moses’ relationship with God was not affected by the people’s rebellion. Read Exodus 33:11. But Moses desired a closer relationship with God. Read Exodus 33:12-13. He wanted to know Him more personally. Read Exodus 33:17-23. “Please, show me Your glory.” God responded, not by giving Moses a vision of how Jehovah appears, but rather by describing Himself to Moses; His nature.

**Body:**

**God’s Self-Revelation**

Read Exodus 34:1-9. This is probably one of the most important texts in all of the Old Testament. Jehovah reveals Himself as He really is.

1. The Lord, the Lord God He pronounces His divine name twice [Yahweh] followed by “El”, the Biblical designation for deity. True God This was possibly done for emphasis. “Yahweh” The Hebrew word stresses His eternal self-existence. (Exodus 3:131-15) His existence does not depend upon anyone or anything.
2. Merciful This means a deep and tender feeling of compassion, such as is aroused by sight of weakness or suffering in those that are dear to us or need our help. This is seen in family relationships. (Psalm 103:13) A father is concerned about his children and their needs. Jehovah’s mercy is seen in His dealings with Israel. (Deuteronomy 4:30-31) Although He is a holy God, His compassion allows Him to deal with weak people and forgive them. (Psalm 178:38-39)
3. Gracious Giving a heartfelt response by someone who has something to give to one who has a need. This is typically used by a stronger person coming to help a weaker person. This aspect of God’s nature keeps Him from turning away from the repentant. (II Chronicles 30:8-9)
4. Longsuffering Slow to anger Jehovah’s anger is a result of man’s sin and rebellion. His righteousness demands that the wickedness be punished. But He does not hurry to punish. (II Peter 3:9) While there is coming a day of reckoning, man has the opportunity throughout his life to turn from sin and obey God.
5. Abounding in Goodness Unfailing love, affection, kindness Jehovah gives blessings beyond anything His people might hope for or desire. “Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.” (Psalm 136:1) The word translated mercy is the same word used here. This goodness is eternal.
6. Abounding in Truth Jehovah’s faithful and reliable and can be depended upon to do as He has promised. His nature abounds in this characteristic. “Your truth reaches in the clouds.” (Psalm 108:4) His words can be trusted because they are truth. Truth is bound up in His character. “Your Word is truth.” (John17:17)
7. Keeping mercy for thousands God extends mercy to all who need it. Possibly referring to thousands of generations, He will extend mercy until the end of time. (Exodus 20:6)
8. Forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin Part of His nature is His willingness to forgive. “Lift up, carry, take away.” (Micah 7:19) “. . .cast all our sins into the depths of the seas.” “iniquity” crooked behavior; turning away from the straight way “transgression” rebellion, revolt, a breach “sin” missing the way [missing God’s standards]
9. No means clearing the guilty Those who do not repent will not go unpunished. They are guilty. Because God is holy and just, the guilty will face serious consequences. God does not punish children or grandchildren for their parents’ sins. (Ezekiel 18:20) But He doesn’t remove natural consequences of people’s sinful behavior, even if innocent people get hurt. Children suffer when they grow up in a household where a parent is an alcoholic. They reap consequences of the parents’ sin.

**Invitation:** Notice Moses’ response. He made haste to worship. He prayed for pardon. When we realize who God is, we will do the same! Bobby Stafford March 30, 2014