

Reward for Fidelity

The angel of Yahweh encamps around those who fear him, and rescues them.

Psalm 34:7



In Exodus 23:20-33 God explains to the Israelites how he will reward their fidelity. This passage is very important in that it still gives us relevant guidelines for our community of believers, in what God will do for us, how we are to set our priorities, and what we can expect in the sense of blessings.

What God does.

What we need to do.

What we receive.

First of all God gives explicit authority to an angel that will guard the community and guide them to the place that he has prepared. Attached to this blessing is the individual responsibility of being attentive to the angel and heeding his voice and promptings. If all that he says is carried out then the foes and enemies of the faithful will be treated as God's foes and enemies.

Furthermore it is necessary to never to bow down in worship before their pagan gods, nor imitate their behavior, but rather show them the uselessness of their ways by examples that will demolish their priorities.

Only the Lord, our God is to be worshipped.

If these guidelines are followed then our food and drink will be blessed, all sickness removed from our midst, and our lives shall be a full span. Furthermore the fear of God will precede us and our enemies will be thrown into panic and flee from us. This will be done not instantly and immediately but rather little by little as God will hand all of them over to us and they will be driven out from among our midst. We must not make any covenant with them, with their gods, and with their worldly ways. They must leave so that they cannot ensnare others into sinning and worshipping their gods.



In this way our community of believers will be strengthened.

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