



# **SWAT PRAYER**

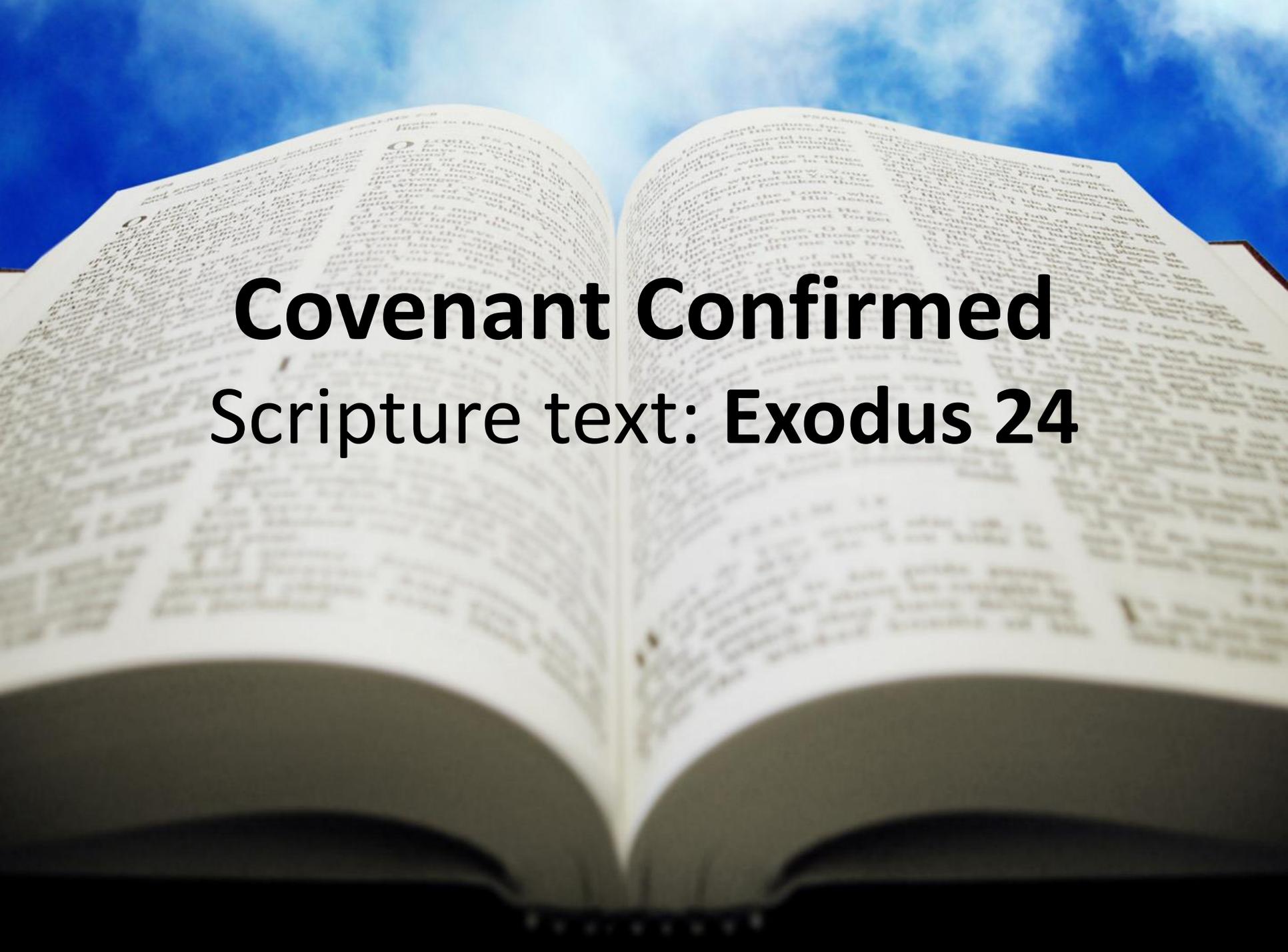
SPIRITUAL WARFARE ATTACK TEAM



**STORMING THE GATES**

Welcome to Promise Land Bible Church  
We're glad you're here!



An open Bible is shown from a low angle, looking up at the pages. The pages are filled with text, but it is out of focus. The background is a bright blue sky with some light clouds. The text is overlaid in a large, bold, black font.

**Covenant Confirmed**  
**Scripture text: Exodus 24**

Moses is about to receive from God the divine pattern for the tabernacle and the priesthood. Whenever God calls us to do a work, He gives us the plans and expects us to follow His will. Ministry is not accomplished by our trying to invent ways to serve God, but by seeking His will and obeying it (Isa. 8:20).

**Isaiah 8:20** To the teaching and to the testimony! **If they will not speak according to this word, it is because they have no dawn.**

**John 1:9-14** The **true light**, which **enlightens everyone**, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But **to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God**, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, **but of God**. And **the Word became flesh and dwelt among us**, and **we have seen his glory**, glory as of the only Son from the Father, **full of grace and truth**.

**Exodus 24:1-4** Then he said to Moses, "**Come up to the LORD**, you and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, and worship from afar. **Moses alone shall come near to the LORD**, but the others shall not come near, and the people shall not come up with him." **Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the rules.** And all the people answered with one voice and said, "**All the words that the LORD has spoken we will do.**" And Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD. He rose early in the morning and **built an altar** at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel.

**Exodus 24:5-8** And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD. And Moses **took half of the blood** and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, "**All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient.**" And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

# Confirming the Covenant (24:1–8)

Before Moses and the leaders of the nation could ascend the mountain to meet with God, the **people had to enter into covenant relationship with God**. Moses shared the Word of God with the people, and they agreed to obey it. How little they understood their own hearts! They should have said, “With the Lord’s help, we will obey His Law.” Within a few weeks, the nation would be worshiping an idol and violating the very Law they agreed to obey.

The covenant was confirmed with sacrifices and the sprinkling of the blood on the Book of the Law and on the people who agreed to obey it. The twelve stones of the altar represented the twelve tribes of Israel, indicating that **each tribe was committed to obey the voice of God**. The blood on the altar spoke of God's gracious forgiveness of sin, while the **blood sprinkled on the people committed them to a life of obedience**. Believers today have been **sprinkled by the blood of Christ in a spiritual sense and are committed to obey His will** (1 Peter 1:2).

**1 Peter 1:1-5** Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who are elect exiles of the dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, **for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood:** May grace and peace be multiplied to you. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

## Seeing the Lord (24:9–18)

Seventy-five men went up the mountain: Moses, Joshua, Aaron and his two sons Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of the people. **They beheld the glory of God on the mountain and ate and drank in His presence.** You would think v. 11 would read, “They saw God and did fall on their faces in fear.” But it says that they saw God and “**did eat and drink.**” Because of the blood on the altar, they were able to have fellowship with God and with one another. **We should eat and drink to the glory of God (1 Cor. 10:31) and live each day in the presence of God, even though we cannot be on the mountain.**

**God called Moses to go up higher** so that He might give him instructions for building the tabernacle and establishing the priestly ministry. He left Aaron and Hur with the elders and **took Joshua with him into the cloud of glory.** First mentioned in Ex. 17:9, Joshua eventually became Moses' successor. We do not know who Hur was, but he, with Aaron, assisted Moses in praying for the success of Joshua in the battle against the Amalekites (Ex. 17:8–16). Aaron must have gone down from the mount, because we find him in chapter 32 helping the people make the golden calf. **When we abandon our place of ministry, we not only sin ourselves, but we may lead others into sin.** See John 21.

**Exodus 17:8-12** Then Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim. So Moses said to Joshua, "**Choose for us men, and go out and fight with Amalek.**

Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand." So Joshua did as Moses told him, and fought with Amalek, while Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed, and whenever he lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses' hands grew weary, so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it, while Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side. So his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.

**Exodus 17:13-16** And Joshua overwhelmed Amalek and his people with the sword. Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write this as a memorial in a book and recite it in the ears of Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven." And Moses built an altar and called the name of it, The **LORD Is My Banner**, saying, "**A hand upon the throne of the LORD! The LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation.**"

"Write this as a memorial in a book and recite it in the ears of Joshua" Here we have Joshua being chosen by these words.

**John 21:3-7** Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "**We will go with you.**" They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "**Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some.**" So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "**It is the Lord!**" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea.

**John 21:15-17** When they had finished breakfast, **Jesus said to Simon Peter**, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "**Feed my lambs.**" He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "**Tend my sheep.**" He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "**Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.**" Jesus said to him, "**Feed my sheep.**"

In OT days, God often revealed His glory in a cloud (19:9, 16). He led the nation with a pillar of cloud and fire (Ex. 13:21–22). **“God is a consuming fire”** (Deut. 4:24; Heb. 12:29).

**Moses did not dare approach God until God summoned him, but when God called, Moses obeyed.**

**Hebrews 12:28-29** Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus **let us offer to God acceptable worship**, with reverence and awe, **for our God is a consuming fire.**

**Exodus 13:19-22** Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for Joseph had made the sons of Israel solemnly swear, saying, "**God will surely visit you**, and you shall carry up my bones with you from here." And they moved on from Succoth and encamped at Etham, on the edge of the wilderness. And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night. **The pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night did not depart from before the people.**

It is possible to believe in God and be a part of His covenant and **yet not be close to God.** The nation was at the base of the mountain; the seventy elders with Aaron, Hur, Nadab, and Abihu were farther up the mountain; **Moses went higher with his assistant Joshua;** and then **Moses left Joshua behind as he entered the cloud into the presence of the Lord.** Under Law, God determined how near people could be to Him. **But under grace, we are the ones who determine our nearness to God.** God invites us to fellowship with Him. The elders worshiped God “afar off” (v. 1), **but we today are invited to “draw near”** (Heb. 10:22; James 4:8).

**Hebrews 10:19-22** Therefore, brothers, **since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus**, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, **through his flesh**, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, **let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith**, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

**James 4:8** **Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.** Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

**What a privilege it is to fellowship with God, and what a tragedy it is that we too often fail to spend time in His presence.**

**Nadab and Abihu were given the gracious privilege of seeing the glory of God, and yet later they presumptuously disobeyed God and were slain (Lev. 10:1–5). It is possible to come near to God and still go away and sin. How important it is that our personal worship of the Lord result in a clean heart and a right spirit (Ps. 51:10), **for great privileges bring with them even greater responsibilities.****

**Leviticus 10:1-5** Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it and laid incense on it and **offered unauthorized fire before the LORD, which he had not commanded them**. And fire came out from before the LORD and consumed them, and they died before the LORD. Then Moses said to Aaron, "This is what the LORD has said, 'Among those who are near me I will be sanctified, and before all the people I will be glorified.'" And Aaron held his peace. And Moses called Mishael and Elzaphan, the sons of Uzziel the uncle of Aaron, and said to them, "Come near; carry your brothers away from the front of the sanctuary and out of the camp." So they came near and carried them in their coats out of the camp, as Moses had said.

**Psalm 51:6-13** Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart. **Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.** Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.** Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. **Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.**