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What is Shavuos? A Story!
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The children of Israel were gathered at the foot of Mount Sinai. A great event was taking place. The children of Israel were, are, and ever will be, receiving the Torah with the most significant Ten Commandments. Throughout time Bnei Yisrael have a mission of bringing those Ten Commandments to the whole world.

The scene was spectacular. Mount Sinai was covered in clouds. There was lightning and thunder. The people heard the blast of the shofar. The earth shook. The people trembled and they heard a voice.

The voice was "The Voice of G-d", with the first of the Ten Commandments. The people were overwhelmed through the awesome experience and Moses had to complete the recitation of the remainder of the Ten Commandments. At the conclusion Bnei Yisrael responded, "we will do, and we will listen".

It could be said that accepting the Ten Commandments serves as a birthday for Jews as a religious people. However, Shavuot is also a harvest festival thanking G-d for giving us the opportunity to gather in new crops.

As we observe Shavuot this year, in a way we never thought we would, remember that there is always some fear moving forward. Today's fear of Covid-19 will come to an end and we will return to observing our holidays in a joyous manner.

Good Yom Tov!

Rabbi Nathan W. Langer