

[Exo 32:1] Now when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people assembled about Aaron and said to him, "Come, make us a god who will go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up from the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him."

- People scoff at the return of Jesus
- [2Pe 3:3-4] Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with [their] mocking, **following after their own lusts**, and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation."

[Exo 32:2] Aaron said to them, "Tear off the gold rings which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring [them] to me."

[Exo 32:3] Then all the people tore off the gold rings which were in their ears and brought [them] to Aaron.

[Exo 32:4] He took [this] from their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool and made it into a molten calf; and they said, "This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt."

- [Exo 20:3] "You shall have **no other gods** before Me.
- [Exo 20:4] "**You shall not make for yourself an idol**, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth.
- [Exo 20:7] "**You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain**, for the LORD will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain.
- Golden Calf: Apis: Hapi-ankh, a sacred bull worshiped in the Memphis region (southern Egypt), identified as the son of Hathor, Later, Apis also served as an intermediary between humans and other powerful deities (originally Ptah, later Osiris, then Atum).

[Exo 32:5] Now when Aaron saw [this,] he built an altar before it; and Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow [shall be] a feast to the LORD (**YWVH**)."

- [Exo 20:24 NASB] 'You shall make an altar of earth for Me, and you shall sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen; in every place where I cause My name to be remembered, I will come to you and bless you.

[Exo 32:6] So the next day they rose early and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, **and rose up to play.**

- Sexual worship of the Goddess Mut. Image
- Mut Papyri. Image

[Exo 32:7] Then the LORD spoke to Moses, "Go down at once, **for your people**, whom you brought up from the land of Egypt, have corrupted [themselves.]

[Exo 32:8] "They have quickly turned aside from the way which I commanded them. They have made for themselves a molten calf, and have worshiped it and have sacrificed to it and said, 'This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt!'"

[Exo 32:9] The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and behold, they are an obstinate people.

[Exo 32:10] "Now then let Me alone, that My anger may burn against them and that I may destroy them; and I will make of you a great nation."

- Teaching Moses about intercession.

[Exo 32:11] Then Moses entreated the LORD his God, and said, "O LORD, why does Your anger burn against **Your people** whom You have brought out from the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand?

[Exo 32:12] "Why should the Egyptians speak, saying, 'With evil [intent] He brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to destroy them from the face of the earth'? Turn from Your burning anger and change Your mind about [doing] harm to Your people.

[Exo 32:13] "Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, Your servants to whom You swore by Yourself, and said to them, 'I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heavens, and all this land of which I have spoken I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit [it] forever.'"

[Exo 32:14] So the LORD **changed** (*nacham*) **His mind** about the harm which He said He would do to His people. **Anthropopathism is a figure of speech in which the feelings or thought processes of finite humanity are ascribed to the infinite God.**

- [Num 23:19 NASB] "God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent (*nacham*); Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?"

[Exo 32:15] Then Moses turned and went down from the mountain with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand, tablets which were written on both sides; they were written on one [side] and the other.

[Exo 32:16] The tablets were God's work, and the writing was God's writing engraved on the tablets.

[Exo 32:17] Now when **Joshua** heard the sound of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, "There is a sound of war in the camp."

[Exo 32:18] But he said, "It is not the sound of the cry of triumph, Nor is it the sound of the cry of defeat; But the sound of singing I hear."

[Exo 32:19] It came about, as soon as Moses came near the camp, that he saw the calf and [the] dancing; and Moses' anger burned, and he threw the tablets from his hands and shattered them at the foot of the mountain.

[Exo 32:20] He took the calf which they had made and burned [it] with fire, and ground it to powder, and scattered it over the surface of the water and made the sons of Israel drink [it.]

[Exo 32:21] Then Moses said to Aaron, "What did this people do to you, that you have brought [such] great sin upon them?"

- Seeker friendly: "Friendly" means basically doing or saying nothing that would offend or drive the person who is seeking Christ away. this means avoiding any negative talk regarding why we need Christ. There is no talk about the reality of Hell. No talk about sin and repentance. No talk about following Christ. Rarely the resurrection.

[Exo 32:22] Aaron said, "Do not let the anger of my lord burn; you know the people yourself, that they are prone to evil.

[Exo 32:23] "For they said to me, 'Make a god for us who will go before us; for this Moses, the man who brought us up from the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.'

[Exo 32:24] "I said to them, 'Whoever has any gold, let them tear it off.' So they gave [it] to me, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf."

- Jeroboam [1Ki 12:28 NASB] So the king consulted, and made two golden calves, and he said to them, "It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem;

behold your gods, O Israel, that brought you up from the land of Egypt." He set one in Bethel, and the other he put in Dan.

- [1Ki 12:30 NASB] Now this thing became a sin, for the people went [to worship] before the one as far as Dan.

[Exo 32:25] Now when Moses saw that the people were out of control--for Aaron had let them get out of control to be a derision among their enemies--

[Exo 32:26] then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, "Whoever is for the LORD (YHVH), [come] to me!" And all the sons of Levi gathered together to him.

[Exo 32:27] He said to them, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'Every man [of you] put his sword upon his thigh, and go back and forth from gate to gate in the camp, and kill every man his brother, and every man his friend, and every man his neighbor.'"

[Exo 32:28] So the sons of Levi did as Moses instructed, and about three thousand men of the people fell that day.

- 3,000 saved in Acts

[Exo 32:29] Then Moses said, "Dedicate yourselves today to the LORD--for every man has been against his son and against his brother--in order that He may bestow a blessing upon you today."

[Exo 32:30] On the next day Moses said to the people, "You yourselves have committed a great sin; and now I am going up to the LORD, perhaps I can make **atonement** for your sin."

[Exo 32:31] Then Moses returned to the LORD, and said, "Alas, this people has committed a great sin, and they have made a god of gold for themselves.

[Exo 32:32] "But now, if You will, forgive their sin--and if not, **please blot me out from Your book which You have written!**"

- Moses is offering to have their sins placed on him?

[Exo 32:33] The LORD said to Moses, "Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book.

[Exo 32:34] "But go now, lead the people where I told you. Behold, My angel shall go before you; nevertheless in the day when I punish, I will punish them for their sin."

[Exo 32:35] Then the LORD smote the people, because of what they did with the calf which Aaron had made.

[Exo 33:1] Then the LORD spoke to Moses, "Depart, go up from here, you and the people whom you have brought up from the land of Egypt, to the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'To your descendants I will give it.'

[Exo 33:2] "I will send an angel before you and I will drive out the Canaanite, the Amorite, the Hittite, the Perizzite, the Hivite and the Jebusite.

[Exo 33:3] "[Go up] to a land flowing with milk and honey; for I will not go up in your midst, because you are an obstinate people, and I might destroy you on the way."

[Exo 33:4] When the people heard this sad word, they went into mourning, and none of them put on his ornaments.

[Exo 33:5] For the LORD had said to Moses, "Say to the sons of Israel, 'You are an obstinate people; should I go up in your midst for one moment, I would destroy you. Now therefore, **put off your ornaments** from you, that I may know what I shall do with you.'"

[Exo 33:6] So **the sons of Israel stripped themselves of their ornaments**, from Mount Horeb [onward.]

[Exo 33:7] Now Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, a good distance from the camp, and he called it the tent of meeting. And everyone who sought the LORD would go out to the tent of meeting which was outside the camp.

- Seek the Lord outside the camp

[Exo 33:8] And it came about, whenever Moses went out to the tent, that all the people would arise and stand, each at the entrance of his tent, and gaze after Moses until he entered the tent.

[Exo 33:9] Whenever Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent; and the LORD would speak with Moses.

[Exo 33:10] When all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would arise and worship, each at the entrance of his tent.

[Exo 33:11] Thus the LORD used to speak to Moses face to face, just as a man speaks to his friend. When Moses returned to the camp, his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, would not depart from the tent.

[Exo 33:12] Then Moses said to the LORD, "See, You say to me, 'Bring up this people!' But You Yourself have not let me know whom You will send with me. Moreover, You have said, 'I have known you by name, and you have also found favor in My sight.'

[Exo 33:13] "Now therefore, I pray You, if I have found favor in Your sight, let me know Your ways that I may know You, so that I may find favor in Your sight. Consider too, that **this nation is Your people.**"

[Exo 33:14] And He said, "My presence shall go [with you,] and I will give you rest."

[Exo 33:15] Then he said to Him, "If Your presence does not go [with us,] do not lead us up from here.

[Exo 33:16] "For how then can it be known that I have found favor in Your sight, I and Your people? Is it not by Your going with us, so that we, I and Your people, may be distinguished from all the [other] people who are upon the face of the earth?" [Exo 33:17] The LORD said to Moses, "I will also do this thing of which you have spoken; for you have found favor in My sight and I have known you by name." [Exo 33:18] Then Moses said, "I pray You, show me Your glory!"

[Exo 33:19] And He said, "I Myself will make all My goodness pass before you, and will proclaim the name of the LORD before you; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show compassion on whom I will show compassion."

[Exo 33:20] But He said, "You cannot see My face, for no man can see Me and live!" [Exo 33:21] Then the LORD said, "Behold, there is a place by Me, and you shall stand [there] on the rock; [Exo 33:22] and it will come about, while My glory is passing by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock and cover you with My hand until I have passed by.

[Exo 33:23] "Then I will take My hand away and you shall see My back, but My face shall not be seen."