

THE LIFE OF MOSES
SINAI AND A GOLDEN CALF
EXODUS 32

- I. THE PEOPLE ASK AARON TO MAKE THEM A god EXODUS 32:1
 - A. Moses had been up on the mountain with God for 40 days
Exodus 24:18
 - B. Why did they ask Aaron to make them a god?
 - 1. Moses delayed in coming down
 - 2. We don't know what has happened to him
 - 3. Make us a god who will go before us
 - C. What are they really expressing with this demand?
 - 1. Impatience
 - 2. Forgetfulness
 - 3. Denial of reality
 - 4. Disrespect
 - 5. A lack of faith
 - 6. A focus upon self
- II. AARON'S RESPONSE (2-6)
 - A. Why did they ask Aaron?

B. The people had assembled about Aaron (1)

1. How many people?
2. What would Aaron have felt?

C. Aaron tells them to take off their gold rings in their ears (2)

1. What should Aaron have said?
2. Why would he tell them to take off their gold?

D. The people take off their gold and bring it to Aaron (3)

E. Aaron fashioned the gold into a calf (4)

1. "fashioned it with a graving tool"
2. "molten calf"
3. Aaron made it

F. Aaron's declaration (4,5)

1. "This is your god, who brought you out of Egypt" (4)
2. "Tomorrow shall be a feast to the LORD" (5)
3. Why did Moses tell Pharaoh that the people needed to go into the wilderness?

G. What makes this all so ridiculous for Aaron to do this?

H. The feast (6)

1. They arose early

2. They offered burnt offerings
3. They brought peace offerings
4. They sat down to eat and to drink
5. They rose up to play
6. Our beliefs lead to our behavior

III. GOD'S RESPONSE TO THE CALF AND BEHAVIOR (7-10)

A. God calls the people "your people" Moses (7)

B. God's description of what the people have done (7-9))

1. "They have corrupted themselves" (7)
2. "They have quickly turned aside from the way I commanded them" (8)
3. "They have made for themselves a molten calf" (8)
4. "They have said, this is the god who brought you up from Egypt" (8)
5. "They are an obstinate people" (9)
6. What stands out to you in God's description of things?

C. God commanded Moses to, "Go down at once" (7)

D. God tells Moses to leave Him alone (10)

1. "that my anger may burn against them"
2. "that I may destroy them"

3. “and I will make a great nation of you”

IV. MOSES' INTERCESSION (11-14)

A. Moses calls the people “your people” (11)

B. Moses appeals to God’s grace and mercy He has displayed towards them (11)

C. Moses appeals to God’s glory (11)

D. Moses appeals to God’s faithfulness (12)

E. Moses asked the Lord to turn from His burning anger (12)

F. God’s changing of His mind (14)

V. MOSES CONFRONTING OF AARON AND THE PEOPLE (15-24)

A. Moses and Joshua head down the mountain (15-18)

1. Moses carries the two tablets of the Ten Commandments (15,16)

2. Joshua hears a sound from the camp of the Israelites below (17)

3. Moses says, “It is the sound of singing” (18)

B. Moses sees the calf (19)

1. His anger burned

2. He throws down the two tablets

3. Why was he so angry?

4. Was he angry for God’s sake or his own?

C. Moses burned the calf with fire (20)

1. What had Aaron done with the gold?
2. Moses ground it into powder and mixed the powder with water
3. Why did Moses have them drink the powder?

D. Moses confronts Aaron about the calf (21)

1. "What did this people do to you that you have brought such great sin?"
2. Who brought the sin upon the people?

E. Aaron's response (22-25)

1. What is Aaron more concerned about than the calf? (22a)
2. Whom does Aaron blame the calf on? (22b-23)
3. What else does Aaron blame the calf on? (24)

F. Moses turned his attention to the people (25-

1. He saw that the people were out of control (25)
2. "Whoever is for the LORD come to me" (26)
3. He tells the sons of Levi to, "kill every man, his brother, his friend and his neighbor" (27)
4. About 3,000 men died that day (28)
5. Moses then calls for the people to dedicate themselves to the LORD (29)

6. Moses tells the people they have committed a great sin and he is
7. going to go attempt to make atonement for their sin (30)

VI. MOSES INTERCEEDS TO GOD FOR THE PEOPLE (31-35)

A. Moses confessed their sin to God (31)

1. He is very specific

B. He asks God to forgive their sin (32)

1. "If not, please blot my name out from Your book"
2. What is Moses doing?

C. God's response (33-35)

1. He rejects Moses' offer (33)
2. He tells Moses to continue their journey to the Promise Land (34)
3. His angel would go before them now (34)
4. He smote the people because of what they had done (35)

VII. WHAT STANDS OUT TO YOU HERE?

- A. What do you learn about God?
- B. What do you learn about Moses?
- C. What do you learn about the Israelites?
- D. What do we learn for our own lives?