

Moses: The Golden Calf

Scripture Text: Exodus 32

20 – Ten Commandments

21-24 – the Law

25-31 – Tabernacle, Priests

32 – Golden Calf

33 – Moses as Mediator

34 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Law

6 sections, using Coffman's outline

### **1. Making the Calf – Ex. 32:1-6**

- 1 – Moses was delayed, people go to Aaron
- 2 – Aaron asks for their gold
- 3 – brought to him
- 4 – made it into a calf image = their god
- 5 – altar made; feast day proclaimed
- 6 – rose up early to eat, drink, play

### **2. Moses' Intercession – Ex. 32:7-14**

- 7 – God: people have corrupted themselves
- 8 – quickly turned aside (Not far from Egypt)
- 9-10 – God wants to consume the nation
- 11-12 – Moses intercedes: What will the Egyptians think?
- 13 – remember the Abraham promise
- 14 – God repented of this idea

### **3. Wrath of Moses – Ex. 32:15-20**

- 15 – Moses comes down with the tablets
- 16 – no doubt what is on the tablets
- 17 – Joshua to Moses: sound of war
- 18 – not war but of worship
- 19 – Moses sees the calf and in anger breaks the tablets

- 20 – Moses smelts calf, makes Israel drink it

#### **4. Aaron's Excuses – Ex. 32:21-24**

- 21 – why did you bring this great sin?
- 22 – you know the people
- 23 – they were afraid of what had happened to you
- 24 – Aaron just the 'middle man'

#### **5. Faithfulness of Levites – Ex. 32:25-29**

- 25 – Moses sees their nakedness (akin to God in Eden)
- 26 – “Who is on the Lord's side?” Come to me!
- 27 – violators to be punished
- 28 – Levites did; 3000 slain
- 29 – consecrate yourselves to the Lord

#### **6. Moses' Renewed Intercession – Ex. 32:30-35**

- 30 – people have sinned; Moses to go to God and make atonement for their sin
- 31-32 – Moses to God: the people have sinned. Please forgive them or take my name out of the book of life!
- 33 – God will forgive them
- 34 – lead the people
- 35 – people plagued for their sin

#### **Lessons Learned:**

1. Don't worship anyone or anything but God!
2. Don't worry if you cannot see the object of worship – God is always there!
3. Don't give in to what everyone else around you is worshipping if it is not right according to Scripture!

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August 26, 2020 PM Wood Church of Christ – preached on Facebook