

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 03 Sept 2017 Exodus 01-04 Reluctance
- 2) 10 Sept Exodus 05-10 Confrontation
- 3) 17 Sept Exodus 11-12 Liberation
- 4) 24 Sept Exodus 13-14 Victory
- 5) 01 Oct Exodus 15-18 Sufficient
- 6) 08 Oct Exodus 19-24 Commanded
- 7) 15 Oct Exodus 25-31 Equipped
- 8) 22 Oct **Exodus 32-34** **Rebellion**
- 9) 29 Oct Exodus 35-40 His Presence
- 10) 05 Nov Leviticus 01-07 Set Before
- 11) 12 Nov Leviticus 08-15 Set Apart
- 12) 19 Nov Leviticus 16-22 Set Free
- 13) 26 Nov Leviticus 23-27 Set Futures

INTRODUCTION

- This lesson looks at the Golden Calf incident and how Israel recovered from such a catastrophic situation
- **Principle to Know.** Though, God holds individuals accountable, yet, the actions of a few can result in everyone suffering
- **Other Principles to Know.** Three keys to a victorious Christian Life: 1) Patience; 2) Obedient Humility; and 3) Discipline

Passage	Comments
Exodus 32:1-35	<p>Without Patience People Quickly Do Their Own Thing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv 1-2. The Israelites lose patience and take matters into their own hands. Aaron caves in to mob pressure. • Why doesn't God slay Aaron for violating Comm. #2 for leading the effort to make a graven image of God? After all, God had a man killed for violation of Comm. #3 (Lev 24:11-16); and another man was killed for picking up sticks on the Sabbath (Num 15:32-35) in violation of Comm. #4. • Aaron escaped dire consequences probably due to personal repentance & intercessory praying by his brother cf Deut 9:20 How important is intercessory praying? Consider this: <i>If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death (i.e., BlaspHEME of the Holy Spirit), he shall ask and God will for him give life to those who commit sin not leading to death...</i> 1John 5:16 • v10-14. God gives Moses a unique test – Should God blot out the Jews and start over with Moses? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God knew what He was going to do from the beginning – Yet God is so sovereign, omniscient, and omnipotent He could still accomplish His will without violating any of His promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, even if Moses said “Yes.” Otherwise, God was baiting or bluffing Moses, but our God is not a deceiver or a trickster. • v14. But the Lord “repented” (i.e., changed His mind) about wiping out the Israelites and starting over • Other passages where God seems to repent or offer to change His plans based on man's changed behavior: 2Sam 24:16; 1Chr 21:15; Psalm 106:45; Jer 18:8; 26:13, 19 Joel 2:13; Jon 3:10; 4:2 • Will God alter things when we ask Him for specific considerations. VERY POSSIBLY! After all, God wants us to pray BIG – not necessarily for possessions, but to micro-manage Him, or to go outside of His will, but to do great things for His Kingdom → Let it be done according to your Faith Mat 8:13; 9:22, 29; 15:28 • Consider this. It might be outside of God's will for us to be trillionaires, or to grow a leg back if one was amputated, or to resurrect a loved one (which would all be temporary wonders). BUT, there are so many greater things to accomplish for God's Kingdom and glory – and which offer us rewards for all eternity • v15-19. God personally writes the 10 Commandments out once again on 2 slabs of stone and on both sides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wouldn't it be spectacular to find the original ARK with the 10 Commandments still inside of it? Or would it? • Consider this. One day Israel would see the ARK as a lucky rabbit's foot. What is more precious to God? <input type="checkbox"/> The heart of His people? or <input type="checkbox"/> His Holy Name? or <input type="checkbox"/> The ARK & its artifacts? • “Remember Shiloh” – God used the capture of the ARK and the destruction of Shiloh, God's temporary temple compound, to get His people to repent. God would also allow Solomon's Temple and Herod's Temple to be destroyed and ransacked by foreign armies for the sake of His Name Ezek 36:18-22

Passage	Comments
Exodus 33:1-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v33. ‘Whosoever sins against God shall be blotted out of my book’. God strongly highlights individual responsibility here. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone sins, so we have to assume the type of “sins” in this passage either alludes to sins worthy of physical death (e.g., Keep the Sabbath or die, Ex 31:14) and/or ... • ...possibly spiritual death in Hell if this “book” alludes to The Book of Life (i.e., spiritual life), which is mentioned many times in the Bible: Exodus 32:32-33; Daniel 12:1; Luke 10:10; Phil 4:3; Rev 3:5; 13:8; 17:8; 20:12, 15. • vv26-28. The Levites who chose to serve God slay about 3,000 of the idolaters throughout the camp. Family relationships didn't matter (father, mother, sister, or brother). The wrongdoers were to be put down like rabid dogs. • v35. God punished the rest of the idolaters with a plague • Why such severity? This seems awfully ISIS and their family honor killings. How do we answer the cynics on this issue? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remember, this was before the Age of Grace to create a holy & separated people for God's glory. Else they would become like their more barbaric and hedonistic neighbors. <p>Without Obedient Humility People Remain Unblessed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv1-3. God seemed intent to allow the Israelites to waltz into the Promised Land within months after leaving Egypt, having led them by a special angel (i.e., The Holy Spirit, whom they constantly provoked, Heb 3:7-8) and not led by God the Father • vv7-10. Moses initially placed the tabernacle 'without' the camp, away from the people to possibly prevent inadvertent deaths. Distance was probably ½ mile, a “Sabbath Day Journey” Josh 3:4 • vv11 & 20. The Lord spoke to Moses “face-to-face” and “No man can see God's face and live.” Was Moses an exception? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skeptics see these verses as contradictory. But this ‘face-to-face’ is euphemism for speaking directly, freely, familiarly, and immediately. God spoke to others indirectly through dreams or visions Num 12:6-8; Heb 1:1 • v19. God will be gracious and have compassion on whom he chooses. Does this make God arbitrary and unpredictable? Not at all. God chooses to rain His lovingkindness, favor, and grace on those who choose Him..... Ps 32:10; 36:10; 86:5; 103:11; Jms 4:8
Exodus 34:1-35	<p>Without Discipline People Lose Focus on What Is Important</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v7. God visits the iniquity of fathers onto the 3rd and 4th generations. Often times there were 3-4 generations in one household, so the father's sins definitely would impact the younger generations • v28. Moses spent another 40 days on the mountain top. Altogether, Moses spent 80 days neither eating food or drinking water (God had to miraculously sustained him) Ex 24:18; 34:28; Deut 9:9; 10:10 • v29. Moses' face shines so much from being in God's presence he is forced to wear a veil. cf 33:18-23. Do people see a change in us when we stay close to God? What does that change look like?

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS / CONSIDERATIONS

- God's ways are definitely not our ways, but He got the Israelites pointed in the right direction despite themselves
- If we want God's grace and compassion in our lives, then we need to position ourselves by choosing or drawing close to Him.

NEXT WEEK: Exodus 35-40. The Israelites are rejuvenated and recommitted to serve God, and they begin to construct the Tabernacle according to God's design



“After I deliver these Ten Commandments again, mind if I swing back and have you look at my double hernia?”