

**AMBASSADORS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS**

**EXODUS 32:1-18**

April 12, 2026

**THEME: Here is a picture of the human condition**

**Verses 1-6: The Worship Of God Defiled**

- A. The Israelites already knew the Ten Commandments (Ex 24:3)
- B. They were counting on a man to save them (cp. Ex 20:2)
  - 1) We fall into sin when we fail to trust that God knows what he's doing and try to work things out on our own (Prov 3:5-6)
- C. The contrast between the golden calf and the true worship of God was absolute (Ps 115:4,8; Acts 4:12; John 14:6)
  - 1) They weren't worshipping; they were partying

**Verses 7-14: Hints Of God's Grace**

- D. God laid the blame squarely at Israel's feet
  - 1) True worship is according to Scripture (John 4:23-24)
  - 2) We want God to teach our minds but not to transform our hearts (Eph 4:17, Matt 5:8)
- E. God threatens judgement (Rom 2:5, 6:23)
  - 1) Moses was a new kind of mediator, a man who asked God to save the ungodly
  - 2) First, Moses appealed to God's *fatherly affection* (Ex 4:22) (see Ex 14:18, 16:6, 18:10, 19:4; Eph 1:4; John 10:29b)
  - 3) Second, Moses appealed to God's *past investment* (Ex 20:2, Phil. 1:6)
  - 4) Third, Moses appealed to God on the basis of his *public reputation* (Ex 7:5)
  - 5) Fourth, Moses appealed to God on the basis of his *merciful compassion* (Ps. 25:6, Neh. 9:31)
  - 6) His final appeal was based on God's *everlasting covenant* (Gen 12:1-3, 17:4; Heb. 13:20; 2 Tim. 2:13)

7) Moses was appealing to him on the basis of His love, His plan, His glory, His mercy, and His faithfulness

F. The message of the gospel is that God has given us a mediator. When He saw our sin, He wanted to save us; so, He sent his Son to intercede for our salvation (John 3:16; Rom. 8:34; John 2:1b, 2a; 1 John 4:9, 10, 14)

### **Verses 15-18: The Law is God's Word To Man - Moses Goes Down**

G. The Bible emphasizes these commandments came from Almighty God

- 1) The law was never man's word about God, but it is God's Word to man. (2 Tim 3:15-17; Matt 5:17)
- 2) When Moses came down to confront them, it wasn't just Moses they had to deal with. They had to deal with the God who laid down the law.

H. What a picture this is of the human condition.

- 1) God has written out his law so we can know how he wants us to live.
- 2) He has sent a Savior to come down and reveal his will.
- 3) And what have we been busy doing? We have been breaking his law left and right, making idols, worshiping our own gods, throwing wild parties, and basically living any way we please.
- 4) Have you been walking with God, or have you been doing your own thing and hoping that God wouldn't notice?

I. Forgiveness removes the guilt of sin but not its consequences. God uses the consequences of our sin in a sanctifying way, teaching us never to do the same thing again. (1 John 1:5-10; 1 Cor 10:6, 11-13)

### **NEXT WEEK - Exodus 32:19-35**