

## **AMBASSADORS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS**

### **EXODUS 32:1-18**

April 12, 2026

**Theme: God's promises are realized only through conscientious obedience to God's precepts.**

**Review:** Israel had broken the Ten Commandments with the sin of the golden idol(32:7, 31). As a result, God would not go up to the land in their midst and would punish them(32:34,35). Moses interceded for the people and asked for forgiveness(32:32). God shows mercy and will go before them (33:1-3). Moses continued to intercede(33:12ff) and asks to see God's glory(33:18). God will only allow a glance at His goodness(33:19-23).

#### **I. God Interacts with Moses (1-9)**

- A. God's Instructions for Replacement Tablets and His Descent (1-5)
  - 1. God again referred to Moses' breaking the first pair of tablets
  - 2. Command – Fulfillment pattern
  - 3. God manifested himself specially and personally to Moses
- B. God Shows Moses His Glory and Defines Himself (6-7)
  - 1. God's gracious response to Moses' earlier appeals (33:18-19)
  - 2. God's response is a proclamation of His name and what it stands for including both compassion and justice (see chart)
- C. Moses Worships and Intercedes for the People (8-9)
  - 1. Moses' natural and immediate response to being in the presence of God was to worship
  - 2. Note that for Moses worship preceded appeal
  - 3. Moses continued his appeal for the presence of God
    - a) Based on the characteristics of God described in vv. 6–7
    - b) Moses continued the appeal that he had begun already

## II. God's Answer: Keep My Covenant and I Will Go with You (34:10–11)

### A. God's Answers with a Restored Covenant (10)

1. This was a divine *restoration* of a broken covenant, one that had been made temporarily null and void by Israel's corporate return to idolatry
2. A requirement is attached to the promise in these verses.

### B. Warning Against Other Covenants – Idolatry (12-17)

1. This section (34:12–16) and the one that follows (34:17–26 next week) represent the stipulations, blessings, and warnings in the restored covenant
2. Their reliance upon Him for blessing and benefit must be absolute and exclusive
3. Being jealous for his name, the meaning is simply that He guards His name's significance—it points to His nature, character, and uniqueness as the only true God—and He will not allow it to be profaned by idolatry or any other misuse
4. Verses 15-17 describe a downward descent into idolatry

## III. Application

- A. When it comes to worshiping other gods, there can be no compromise. To have such a relationship with God, we need to guard our hearts. The greatest threat to our love for God is our attraction to other things (Heb 3; Philippians 4:6-9). What have you been falling in love with?
- B. This is one of the many ways that Moses shows us the structure of salvation and thus points to the saving work of Jesus Christ. Therefore, the way for us to escape God's holy wrath and have our sins forgiven is to trust in Jesus Christ: “ through His name everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins.” (Acts 10:43). Do you know this holy God? Do you know his Son, Jesus Christ?

## IV. Next week 05/24/2026: Exodus 34:17-35

## God's Testimony

About Himself (Ex 34:6-7)		About His Son	
OT Attribute	OT Meaning	NT Reference	Observation
The Lord, the Lord God	Name stands for His entire being and nature	Rom 10:9	Jesus is Lord
Compassionate	Genuinely cares about us and holds us with a tender attitude of concern and mercy	Matt 9:36a Heb 4:15	His compassion was real sympathy as He entered into this fallen world of misery and sin
Gracious	He does things for us we don't deserve and goes beyond the expected to grant favor to us	John 1:14 Rom 5:17	Christ's sacrifice on our behalf was acceptable to God rather than making us die for our sin
Slow to Anger	Great patience towards us with failures in any realm	1 Peter 3:9	Jesus is patient toward us, not wishing for any to perish
Abounding in Lovingkindness	Great long term, reliable loyalty to us regardless of ours to Him	1 John 4:10 Eph 3:18	Everything Jesus does for us abounds in love and faithfulness
Abounding in Truth	He is correct and reliable in every situation, at all times and may be trusted even with eternal life	John 1:14 John 14:6	Jesus is the truth and speaks nothing but the truth
Keeps Lovingkindness for Thousands	Will keep His covenant blessings to His people indefinitely	Titus 3:4ff 2 Thess 3:5	Mercy and love for mankind in salvation through Christ
Forgives Iniquity, Transgression, and Sin	Forgiving evil and sins of all sorts, only God can do this	Acts 5:31; 13:38; 1 John 1:6-9	God absolves the sinner from the condemnation of the law by the work of Christ on the cross
Yet by No Means Leaves the Guilty Unpunished	God's just punishment for a repeated sin down through the generations	John 5:19ff Acts 10:42 1 Peter 4:5	Jesus will judge the living and the dead regarding eternal life and death