

Exodus 32:1-35

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered themselves together to Aaron and said to him, “Up, make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt,

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we do not know what has become of him.”

2 So Aaron said to them, “Take off the rings of gold that are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.” 3 So all the people took off the rings of gold that were in their ears and brought them to Aaron.

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⁴ And he received the gold from their hand and fashioned it with a graving tool and made a golden calf. And they said, “These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!” ⁵ When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it.

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And Aaron made a proclamation and said,
“Tomorrow shall be a feast to the Lord.”

⁶ And they rose up early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought peace offerings. And the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play. ⁷ And the Lord said to Moses,

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“Go down, for your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves. ⁸ They have turned aside quickly out of the way that I commanded them. They have made for themselves a golden calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said,

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‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’”

⁹ And the Lord said to Moses, “I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stiff-necked people. ¹⁰ Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them,

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in order that I may make a great nation of you.”¹¹ But Moses implored the Lord his God and said, “O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand?¹² Why should the Egyptians say,

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‘With evil intent did he bring them out, to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from your burning anger and relent from this disaster against your people.

13 Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants,

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to whom you swore by your own self, and said to them, ‘I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your offspring, and they shall inherit it forever.’”

14 And the Lord relented from the disaster that he had spoken of bringing on his people.

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15 Then Moses turned and went down from the mountain with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand, tablets that were written on both sides; on the front and on the back they were written. 16 The tablets were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God,

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engraved on the tablets.¹⁷ When Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, “There is a noise of war in the camp.”¹⁸ But he said, “It is not the sound of shouting for victory, or the sound of the cry of defeat, but the sound of singing that I hear.”

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¹⁹ And as soon as he came near the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, Moses' anger burned hot, and he threw the tablets out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain. ²⁰ He took the calf that they had made and burned it with fire and ground it to powder

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and scattered it on the water and made the people of Israel drink it. ²¹ And Moses said to Aaron, “What did this people do to you that you have brought such a great sin upon them?” ²² And Aaron said, “Let not the anger of my lord burn hot. You know the people, that they are set on evil.

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²³ For they said to me, ‘Make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.’ ²⁴ So I said to them, ‘Let any who have gold take it off.’ So they gave it to me, and I threw it into the fire,

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and out came this calf.”²⁵ And when Moses saw that the people had broken loose (for Aaron had let them break loose, to the derision of their enemies),²⁶ then Moses stood in the gate of the camp and said, “Who is on the Lord's side? Come to me.” And all the sons of Levi gathered around him.

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27 And he said to them, “Thus says the Lord God of Israel, ‘Put your sword on your side each of you, and go to and fro from gate to gate throughout the camp, and each of you kill his brother and his companion and his neighbor.’” 28 And the sons of Levi did according to the word of Moses.

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And that day about three thousand men of the people fell.²⁹ And Moses said, “Today you have been ordained for the service of the Lord, each one at the cost of his son and of his brother, so that he might bestow a blessing upon you this day.”³⁰ The next day Moses said to the people,

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“You have sinned a great sin. And now I will go up to the Lord; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin.”³¹ So Moses returned to the Lord and said, “Alas, this people has sinned a great sin. They have made for themselves gods of gold.³² But now, if you will forgive their sin—but if not,

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please blot me out of your book that you have written.”³³ But the Lord said to Moses, “Whoever has sinned against me, I will blot out of my book.³⁴ But now go, lead the people to the place about which I have spoken to you; behold, my angel shall go before you. Nevertheless,

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in the day when I visit, I will visit their sin upon them.” 35 Then the Lord sent a plague on the people, because they made the calf, the one that Aaron made.

1 Corinthians 10:6-14

Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷ Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.”

1 Corinthians 10:6-14

⁸ We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹ We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, ¹⁰ nor grumble, as some of them did and were

1 Corinthians 10:6-14

destroyed by the Destroyer.¹¹ Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come.¹² Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.

1 Corinthians 10:6-14

13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

1 Corinthians 10:6-14

14 Therefore, my beloved, flee from
idolatry

Covenant Breach

We fall into idolatry when we don't
realize the tendency of our hearts

Covenant Breach

We fall into idolatry when we disobey
the Word of God

Covenant Breach

1. You will have no other gods before me.

Covenant Breach

An idol is:

- Anything that you put in place of God
- Anything that you seek to give you what only God can give
- Anything you desire, love, or treasure more than God

Covenant Breach

An idol is:

- Anything that is more important to you than God

Covenant Breach

1. You shall have no other gods before me.
2. You shall not make for yourself a carved image or any likeness of God.

Covenant Breach

1. You shall have no other gods before me.
2. You shall not make for yourself a carved image or any likeness of God.
3. Do not take God's name in vain

Covenant Breach

We fall into idolatry when we grow impatient with God and His plan

Covenant Breach

We fall into idolatry when we forget the grace of God

Psalm 106:19-22

They made a calf in Horeb
and worshiped a metal image.

²⁰ They exchanged the glory of God
for the image of an ox that eats
grass.

Psalm 106:19-22

21 They forgot God, their Savior,
who had done great things in Egypt,
22 wondrous works in the land of Ham,
and awesome deeds by the Red
Sea.

Covenant Breach

Idolatry is based upon sight and not
faith

Idolatry leads to immorality

Covenant Breach

We fall into idolatry when we distort the worship of God

Romans 1:18-26

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

¹⁹ For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.

Romans 1:18-26

²⁰ For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. ²¹ For although they knew God,

Romans 1:18-26

they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools,²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and

Romans 1:18-26

birds and animals and creeping things.

24 Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves,²⁵ because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature

Romans 1:18-26

rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

²⁶ For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions.

Covenant Breach

Consequences of Idolatry:

- Idolatry incites God's wrath
- Idolatry brings God's judgment

Covenant Breach

Idols must be destroyed

Covenant Breach

Our idolatry reminds us of our need for a perfect intercessor, mediator and sacrifice.