

Review:

Israelites built a golden calf

Dialogue between God and Moses

(13) **Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel,** Your servants, to whom You swore by Your own self, and said to them, 'I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven; and all this land that I have spoken of I give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' "

(14) So the **LORD relented from the harm which** He said He would do to His people.

1 Timothy 2:5 For there is one God and **one Mediator** between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,

1 John 2:1 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, **we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.**

(15) And Moses turned and went down from the mountain, and the two tablets of the Testimony were in his hand. The tablets were written on both sides; on the one side and on the other they were written.

(16) Now the **tablets were the work of God**, and the writing was the **writing of God engraved** on the tablets.

(17) And 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 noise of the shout of victory, Nor the noise of the cry of defeat, **But the sound of singing I hear.**"

(19) So it was, as soon as he came near the camp, that he saw the calf and the dancing. **So Moses' anger became hot**, and **he cast the tablets out of his hands** and broke them at the foot of the mountain.

(20) Then he took the calf which they had made, **burned it in the fire, and ground it to powder**; and he scattered it on the water and made the children of Israel drink it.

(21) And Moses said to Aaron, "**What did this people do to you that you have brought** so great a sin upon them?"

(22) So Aaron said, "Do not let the anger of my lord become hot. **You know the people that they are set on evil.**

(23) For they said to me, 'Make us gods that shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.'

(24) And I said to them, 'Whoever has any gold, let them break it off.' So they gave it to me, and **I cast it into the fire, and this calf came out.**"

A) Joshua hears a war, Moses hears the singing.

B) Moses breaks the Commandments and makes the people drink the gold.

Jeremiah 25:15 For thus says the LORD God of Israel to me: "Take this wine cup of fury from My hand, and cause all the nations, to whom I send you, to drink it.

C) Confronts Aaron – People are evil. Gold in fire and out came this calf.

(25) Now when Moses saw that the people **were unrestrained** (for **Aaron had not restrained them**, to their shame among their enemies),

(26) then Moses stood in the entrance of the camp, and said, "Whoever is on the LORD's side—come to me!" **And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together to him.**

(27) And he said to them, "Thus says the LORD God of Israel: 'Let every man put his

sword on his side, and go in and out from entrance to entrance throughout the camp, and let every man kill his brother, every man his companion, and every man his neighbor.' "

(28) So, the sons of Levi did according to the word of Moses. And **about three thousand men of the people fell that day.**

A) 3000 die. This is less than a 1 percent. It is .15 of a 1 percent.

B) (Law v Spirit)

(29) Then Moses said, "Consecrate yourselves today to the LORD, that He may bestow on you a blessing this day, for every man has opposed his son and his brother."

(30) Now it came to pass on the next day that Moses said to the people, "You have committed a great sin. **So now I will go up to the LORD; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin.**"

(31) Then Moses returned to the LORD and said, "Oh, these people have committed a great sin, and have made for themselves a god of gold!

(32) Yet now, if You will forgive their sin—but if not, I pray, blot me out of Your book which You have written."

(33) And the LORD said to Moses, "Whoever has **sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book.**

(34) Now therefore, **go, lead the people to the place of which I have spoken to you.**

Behold, My Angel shall go before you.

Nevertheless, in the day when I visit for punishment, **I will visit punishment upon them for their sin."**

(35) So the **LORD plagued the people because of what they did with the calf which Aaron made.**

A) Moses goes back up to make atonement for the people.

Moses OT Events:

- Moses gives the law verbally to the people (Exodus 19–20) —> God speaks truth and reveals the covenant.
- Moses goes up the mountain to receive the stone tablets (Exodus 24–31) —> Moses acts as mediator between God and Israel.
- While Moses is gone, the people fall into idolatry (the golden calf; Exodus 32) —> covenant-break and corporate sin.
- Moses descends, sees the idolatry, breaks the tablets, and pronounces or executes judgment (Exodus 32); about 3,000 die (Exodus 32:28) —> immediate consequences for sin under the old covenant.
- Moses ascends again to intercede and obtain atonement (Exodus 32:30–34; 34:1–10) —>

Moses pleads with God and receives renewed covenant terms.

- God says, “Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book” (Exodus 32:33) —> an explicit warning about divine judgment and covenant membership.

New Testament fulfilment/symbolic correspondences

- Law given (Moses) → Law, prophecy, and covenant preparation that point to Christ.
- People sin (Israel’s idolatry) → Humanity’s universal sinfulness; the need for a savior.
- Christ descends and pays penalty (incarnation, life, death, atonement) → Jesus bears the penalty for sin once for all (cf. Romans and Hebrews).
- Christ ascends (Resurrection and Ascension) → Jesus is exalted and sends the Spirit; at Pentecost 3,000 are converted (Acts 2),

showing the birth of the new covenant community.

- Christ as High Priest (Hebrews) → Unlike Moses, Jesus both mediates and provides the perfect sacrifice; He secures atonement and intercedes permanently before God.