

THE GLORY OF GOD

Week 14 – Consequences...BUT GOD!

August 31, 2025

Ex. 32:26-28 - *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.*

Was God wrong in telling those who came over to Moses’ side to kill his brother...every man his companion...and every man his neighbor?

NO!!!! WHY NO!?????

Where had Moses been since Ex. 24:18? *Moses went into the midst of the cloud and went up into the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.*

From Ex. 19:3 until Ex. 24:18 we read of Moses going back and forth between the people and God on Mt. Sinai! Moses was the mediator between God and man.

In Ex. 20:1-4 - *And God spoke all these words, saying:*

² *“I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. ³ “You shall have no other gods before Me. ⁴ “You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth;*

In Ex. 21:1 God told Moses, *Now these are the judgments which you shall set before them:* Included in the judgments was Ex. 22:18 - *He who sacrifices to any god, except to the Lord only, he shall be utterly destroyed.*

Therefore, following Ex. 32:28 when *about 3,000* died due to the worshiping of the gold calf, Moses told the children of Israel...

Ex. 32:30 - *You have committed a great sin. So now I will go up to the Lord; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin.* What did Moses know about atonement?

Adam and Eve rebelled against God.

Gen. 2:16-17 - *And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, ‘Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.’*

Gen. 3:21 - *for Adam and his wife the Lord God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.*

What did God provide? A substitutionary sacrifice.

Gen. 22:8 – *God will provide HIMSELF the lamb.* Who is that Lamb?

Did Moses know these accounts? The Holy Spirit inspired Moses to record these accounts in Scripture! AND, we can only imagine ALL that God was telling Moses during their time on Mt. Sinai together!

Ex. 32:31-32 - 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.”

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Moses petitioned God to forgive the people for their great sin. BUT God cannot set aside sin. God is JUST. His holiness demands that He must deal with sin. Moses told God that if He/ God did not forgive the sins of the people, *blot me out of Your book which You have written.*

Ex. 32:33 - *And the Lord said to Moses, ‘Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book.’* This was God’s answer! Those who have sinned/will sin, God will blot them out of His book. From God’s answer it appears that “My book” – God’s book – contains the names of those whose sins are forgiven.

Psa. 69:28 – *Let them be blotted out of the book of the living and not be written with the righteous.*

Rev. 3:5 – Jesus said, *He who overcomes* (is VICTORIOUS in Jesus through His sacrificial death), *I will NOT blot out his name from the Book of Life.*

Rev. 17:8 - *...those who dwell on the earth* (during the tribulation) *will marvel – those whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.*

Rev. 20:11-15 - *Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books (plural) were opened. And another book (singular) was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. ¹³ The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works....¹⁵ And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.*

It appears that in Ex. 32:33 we are reading of Moses’ sacrificial heart. He was willing to be taken out of the book containing the names of the righteous – separating himself from God for all eternity..

In Rom. 9:3 we read of the Apostle Paul stating the same. From his heart Paul said, *for I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren.* “Accursed” – God’s wrath – judgment - separated from Jesus for all eternity.

We know that according to Scripture neither Moses nor Paul, as believers, could ever be separated from God (Rom. 8:1 – there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; Rom. 8 37-39)

Blot me out of Your book which You have written....

How did God respond? God responded with justice...

Ex. 32:34-35 - *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.

...with justice AND...

NOT taking away His promise of the land.

Not withholding His Angel – “My Angel” which God had already promised (Ex. 23:20-23)

AND...there’s more...