

(Exodus) Exodus 32:30-35

by J. Vernon McGee

Moses' confession and willingness to suffer with the people move God's heart and demonstrate the importance of identifying with others in their sin.

Duration: 3:09

Scripture: Genesis 15:18, Exodus 32:30-32, Exodus 32:34, Matthew 6:33

Topics: "Expositional"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher focuses on the story of Moses and the Israelites in the book of Exodus. He highlights the concept of atonement, which was a way to cover up sin before the coming of Christ. Moses confesses the sin of the people, acknowledging their worship of golden idols. He emphasizes the importance of confessing sin and agreeing with God about it. Moses even offers to be blotted out of God's book if it means the people will be forgiven. God responds by saying that He will deal individually with those who have sinned, but He will still lead the people to the promised land with His angel. The preacher also mentions that the angel of the Lord represents the visible presence of Christ in the Old Testament.

Transcript

Now will you notice, we move on to verse 30, "...it came to pass on the morrow that Moses said unto the people, Ye have sinned a great sin, and now I will go up unto the Lord. Peradventure I shall make an atonement for you." That is, an atonement was that which was made to cover up sin. That's the way it was handled before Christ came and then it was removed.

Now verse 31 is actually another reason that Moses gives to God for him not destroying the people but taking them up into the promised land. We saw three last time. Now here is the fourth.

"...And Moses returned unto the Lord, and said, O this people have sinned a great sin, and have made them gods of gold." What is that? Confession. If you want to get along with God, you will have to agree with him about sin. Sin is sin, and it must be confessed.

I don't care who it is, and these are God's people, and Moses goes up and said, we've sinned. This people have sinned. It's a great sin.

They've made gods of gold, and he spelled out the sin, and I think that's the thing we ought to do when we confess our sins. Spell it out before God. Now listen to Moses, verse 32.

"...Yet now if thou wilt forgive their sin..." I don't know what Moses was going to say after that because now he changes his tact and listen to him. "...And if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written." And Moses said, I take my place with the people. Identify myself with them, and if you intend to blot them out, blot me out.

Remember, God told him, I can make good my covenant to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob by just simply making a nation from you. Moses said, now identify myself with the people. If you don't intend to bring them into the land, then blot me out with them.

Now notice, this is what moves the heart of God that moves the hand of God. "...And the Lord said unto Moses, Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book." God deals individually and personally with sin. Verse 34, "...Therefore now go, lead the people unto the place of which I have spoken unto thee.

Behold, mine angels shall go before thee. Nevertheless, in the day when I visit, I will visit their sin upon them." Now God says, I'll deal with it personally. And I will take the people up, though.

I'll take those up that have not sinned, and my angel will go with me. Now, the angel of the Lord, in the Old Testament, we said is the visible presence of Christ, the pre-incarnate Christ. The angel of the Lord always reveals the presence of deity, God appearing to man.

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