

# WHO IS ON THE LORD'S SIDE

## EXODUS 32

Text: Exodus 32:26

"Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on the LORD'S side? let him come unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him."

Introduction:

(Amos 7:7-8 KJV) "Thus he showed me: and, behold, the Lord stood upon a wall made by a plumbline, with a plumbline in his hand. {8} And the LORD said unto me, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, A plumbline. Then said the Lord, Behold, I will set a plumbline in the midst of my people Israel: I will not again pass by them any more:"

God in His discussion with the prophet Amos, sets a plumbline in the midst of Israel to see if they would come up to God's standard.

I believe that line is still set.

We live in a day where the lines of distinction have become unclear. By the way separation is not a new message. Separation is not a Baptist message.

Separation is a Bible message that is echoed throughout the Bible.

(Exo 11:7 KJV) "But against any of the children of Israel shall not a dog move his tongue, against man or beast: that ye may know how that the LORD doth put a difference between the Egyptians and Israel."

(Lev 10:10 KJV) "And that ye may put difference between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean;"

(Lev 11:47 KJV) "To make a difference between the unclean and the clean, and between the beast that may be eaten and the beast that may not be eaten."

(Lev 20:25 KJV) "Ye shall therefore put difference between clean beasts and unclean, and between unclean fowls and clean: and ye shall not make your souls abominable by beast, or by fowl, or by any manner of living thing that creepeth on the ground, which I have separated from you as unclean."

(Ezek 22:26 KJV) "Her priests have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they showed difference between the unclean and the clean, and have hid their eyes from my sabbaths, and I am profaned among them."

(Ezek 44:23 KJV) "And they shall teach my people the difference between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean."

Now there are those that would like to believe that these verses are addressing different nationalities. But it is very clear in the New Testament that these verses is not speaking of nations, but rather position in and among these nations.

(Acts 15:9 KJV) "And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith."

(Rom 10:12 KJV) "For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him."

(2 Cor 6:17 KJV) "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,"

Now in our text this morning Moses had been up in the mountain for several days, meeting with God and the children of Israel had grown restless in their labors for the Lord. So they sought to satisfy their religious desires by building a golden calf to worship.

How can a people, who God had delivered out of the hand of the Egyptians, and fed daily, and guided day and night, become so spiritually ignorant? How can

these people who God said that He would put a difference between them and the ungodly, become so ungodly in their actions.

Now before we become critical of them let us answer those same questions first. How can Christians be so spiritually ignorant that they willingly decide to do and participate in and with the world? There are those today who only want Christian friends to do worldly activities with, and they believe that it justifies such actions.

Let consider the question that Moses offers:

(Exo 32:26 KJV) "Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on the LORD'S side? let him come unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him."

## **1. THE DESIRE OF THE PEOPLE (EX 32:1,2)**

(Exo 32:1-2 KJV) "And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him. {2} And Aaron said unto them, Break off the golden earrings, which are in the ears of your wives, of

your sons, and of your daughters, and bring them unto me."

A. They came to Aaron (v. 1)

B. They sought other gods (v. 1)

## **2. THE DEGENERACY OF AARON (EX 32:3-6)**

(Exo 32:3-6 KJV) "And all the people brake off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them unto Aaron. {4} And he received them at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, after he had made it a molten calf: and they said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. {5} And when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and said, To morrow is a feast to the LORD. {6} And they rose up early on the morrow, and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play."

A. Aaron listened to the people. (v. 3)

B. Aaron sacrificed to the golden calf. (vv. 4-6)

### **3. THE DISCERNMENT OF THE LORD (EX 32:7-10)**

(Exo 32:7-10 KJV) "And the LORD said unto Moses, Go, get thee down; for thy people, which thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves: {8} They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them: they have made them a molten calf, and have worshipped it, and have sacrificed thereunto, and said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which have brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. {9} And the LORD said unto Moses, I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a stiffnecked people: {10} Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may wax hot against them, and that I may consume them: and I will make of thee a great nation."

A. The Lord saw their wickedness. (vv. 7-9)

B. God's wrath was kindled against Israel. (v 10)

### **4. THE DETERMINATION OF MOSES (EX 32:11-14)**

(Exo 32:11-14 KJV) "And Moses besought the LORD his God, and said, LORD, why doth thy wrath wax hot against thy people, which thou hast brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power, and with a mighty hand? {12} Wherefore should the Egyptians

speaking, and say, For mischief did he bring them out, to slay them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth? Turn from thy fierce wrath, and repent of this evil against thy people. {13} Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, thy servants, to whom thou swarest by thine own self, and saidst unto them, I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of will I give unto your seed, and they shall inherit it for ever. {14} And the LORD repented of the evil which he thought to do unto his people."

A. Moses restates that which the Lord had done for Israel. (vv. 11,12)

B. Moses reminds the Lord of His covenant with the people. (vv. 13,14)

## **5. THE DISCIPLINE OF THE PEOPLE. (EX 32:15-28)**

(Exo 32:15-28 KJV) "And Moses turned, and went down from the mount, and the two tables of the testimony were in his hand: the tables were written on both their sides; on the one side and on the other were they written. {16} And the tables were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, graven upon the tables. {17} And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said unto Moses, There is a noise of war in the camp. {18} And he said, It is not

the voice of them that shout for mastery, neither is it the voice of them that cry for being overcome: but the noise of them that sing do I hear. {19} And it came to pass, as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he saw the calf, and the dancing: and Moses' anger waxed hot, and he cast the tables out of his hands, and brake them beneath the mount. {20} And he took the calf which they had made, and burnt it in the fire, and ground it to powder, and strowed it upon the water, and made the children of Israel drink of it. {21} And Moses said unto Aaron, What did this people unto thee, that thou hast brought so great a sin upon them? {22} And Aaron said, Let not the anger of my lord wax hot: thou knowest the people, that they are set on mischief. {23} For they said unto me, Make us gods, which shall go before us: for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him. {24} And I said unto them, Whosoever hath any gold, let them break it off. So they gave it me: then I cast it into the fire, and there came out this calf. {25} And when Moses saw that the people were naked; (for Aaron had made them naked unto their shame among their enemies:) {26} Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on the LORD'S side? let him come unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him. {27} And he said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Put every man his sword by his side, and go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and



every man his neighbour. {28} And the children of Levi did according to the word of Moses: and there fell of the people that day about three thousand men."

A. The people had to drink polluted water.  
(vv. 15-20)

B. Three thousand of the people were slain by the sword. (vv. 21-28)

C. Notice

1. These were God's people, who were once separated people.

2. These people sinned in doing and worshipping in a worldly way, with worldly means.

3. God knew where they were and what they were doing.

4. Their past didn't prevent their punishment.

5. God sometimes removes the obstacles, after repeated attempts to deal with them.

(1 John 5:16 KJV) "If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it."

## **6. THE DISCOURSE OF MOSES (EX 32:29-35)**

(Exo 32:29-35 KJV) "For Moses had said, Consecrate yourselves to day to the LORD, even every man upon his son, and upon his brother; that he may bestow upon you a blessing this day. {30} And 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 your sin. {31} And Moses returned unto the LORD, and said, Oh, this people have sinned a great sin, and have made them gods of gold. {32} Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin--; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written. {33} And the LORD said unto Moses, Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book. {34} Therefore now go, lead the people unto the place of which I have spoken unto thee: behold, mine Angel shall go before thee: nevertheless in the day when I visit I will visit their sin upon them. {35} And the LORD plagued the people, because they made the calf, which Aaron made."

A. A call to consecration (vv. 29, 30)

B. A cry unto the Lord (vv. 31,32)

## **7. THE DECISION OF THE PEOPLE (EX 32:26)**

(Exo 32:26 KJV) "Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on the LORD'S side? let him come unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him."

A. Had to be decided on.

B. We must decide as well.

Close:

The plumb line is set. Where is it that we line up? Are we on the Lord's side? Can the world see the difference?

Maybe you're not coming up to God's standard.

Maybe you once were more separated than you are today. Why?

Maybe you know a fellow Christian, that is going that direction, and you might just want to pray for them.

Maybe you are here and you not certain that if you died today that you would go to Heaven, but want to go there some day.

Whatever your need is God want to meet it today.

Who Is On the Lord's Side Exodus 32:1-35