

Tabernacle and the People of God Built:

The People of God:

Read Ex. 32:1-35

1. After all that God has done for the Israelites, after he has delivered them from the Egyptians with a mighty hand, after he has given them his laws to obey and given them instruction as to the way he plans to dwell among them, what do the people do? See Ex. 32:1-5.
 - a.
2. From where did they get the rings of gold used to make the calf? See Ex. 3:22; 12:35-36. Isn't it sad how the people abuse God's gifts?
 - a.
3. How is this mockery made clear in the peoples' words? See Ex. 32:4. How does this directly oppose who God said he is? See Ex. 20:2. How does Aaron respond to their proclamation? See Ex. 32:5. Do you suppose he is trying to get them to worship the true God, or is he making the calf out to be the LORD?
 - a.
 - b.
4. After the calf is made, what does God plan to do to the people? See Ex. 32:10. This raises the question: will God destroy Israel just as he rightly judged Egypt? Even when God decides he is going to destroy Israel, what does he say to Moses? See Ex. 32:10.
 - a.
 - b.
5. What is Moses' response? See Ex. 32:11-13. Is he successful? See Ex. 32:14.
 - a.
 - b.
6. But then what does Moses do when he sees what God already knew about? See Ex. 32:15-19. Notice the similarities between God and Moses' response in Ex. 32:10, 19. What is the significance of Moses' action in Ex. 32:20? Who has been frequently tied to the symbol of fire? Who to water?
 - a.
 - b.
7. What will God do as a result of Israel's breach of the covenant? What did he do? See Ex. 32:34-35. Also, recall Ex. 20:5-6.
 - a.

Read Ex. 33:1-23

Whose People is It?:

1. How does God refer to the people after the calf is made? See Ex. 32:7-8.
 - a.
 - b.
2. Later, when Moses went to make atonement for Israel, how does God refer to Israel? See Ex. 32:30-35; 33:3.

- a.
- 3. Yet whose are the people really? What does Moses say? See Ex. 33:12-16, especially noting verses 13 and 16.

- a.

God Remains God of His People:

- 1. How is God's interaction with Moses pointing toward God remaining God of his people? See Ex. 33:7-11.
- a.
- 2. How does God ultimately reveal himself? See Ex. 33:18-23. To whom? What does this say about how God reveals himself?

- a.

God Renews His Covenant:

Read Ex. 34:1-35

- 1. Through and to whom does God renew his covenant? See Ex. 34:1-8.
- a.
- 2. What does Moses ask God to do for the people? See Ex. 34:9. How is this just like Moses' relationship with God? Consider Ex. 33:11.
- a.
- 3. What kind of God renews his covenant? How does God name himself? See Ex. 33:19; 34:5-7.

- a.

Building of the Tabernacle:

Read Ex. 35:20-29

- 1. Voluntary gifts (35:20-29)
 - a. Who offered gifts for the building of the tabernacle? See Ex. 35:5, 21-29.
 - i.
 - b. Remember the tent of meeting where God met Moses in Ex. 33:7,10? So too, now the LORD was having a "tent of meeting" made, so he could dwell with his people.
 - i.

Read Ex. 35:30-36:7

- 2. Bezalel and his craftsmen (35:30-36:7)
 - a. What kind of people does the LORD get to make the tabernacle? See Ex. 35:30-36:2. What has the LORD done to these people?
 - i.
 - ii.
- 3. Progress of the work (36:8-39:31)
 - a. Note how this work was carried out. See Ex. 39:1,7,21,26,29,31,43.
 - i.
 - b. Also, in your copious free time, check out how exactly the Israelites built the tabernacle according to God's instructions. This goes to show how significant hearing and obeying God's word is in Exodus.

- i.
- 4. Moses' blessing (39:32-43)
 - a. When all is finished, what does Moses do? See Ex. 39:43.
 - i.

But Moses Can't Enter?

Read Ex. 40:34-38

1. What do you make of Moses being unable to enter the tent of meeting? See Ex. 40:34-35. What about the other times he was able to go into the cloud (See Ex. 24:18)? Or when he was able to go in a different tent of meeting (See Ex. 33:7-10)?
 - a.
 - b.
2. When will the glory of the LORD next fill a temple? See 1 Kings 8:10-13.
 - a.

Take Away:

1. This week, I urge you to consider again and be grateful for the ways the LORD revealed himself and dwelt with the Israelites, forgiving their iniquity.
2. I also urge you to remember how God the Father has again revealed himself to you in Jesus Christ, who redeemed you from your sin and gave you his life at the cross.

Closing Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, we praise you for being both the God of the Israelites and our God today. Thank you for the ways you revealed yourself to the Israelites then and how you reveal yourself to us today in Christ. Grant that we may always be encouraged by Christ's dwelling with us today. In his name, amen.