

Will He Go With Us?
(...into the New Year?)

threw the stone tablets
down breaking them into
pieces.

[33] The Lord replied to
Moses, ‘Whoever has
sinned against me I will
blot out of my book.’”

evidence of the presence
of God, the ppl would
stand at their front door
and worship.

I. Introduction

A. Ever heard the expression
“Hindsight 2020”

1. 2020 gives that new
meaning!

B. Q. How can you make God
laugh?

A. Tell him your plans.

C. **Pastoral Pause:** Could
COVID be judgement?

1. Don’t be too dismissive.
2. What is God trying to speak
to us/our nation right now?

D. **Pray**

II. Context

A. Ch. 32 is the story of the
Golden Calf.

1. Exodus 31:18 “When the
Lord finished speaking to
Moses on Mount Sinai, he
gave him the two tablets of
the covenant law, the
tablets of stone inscribed
by the finger of God.”

2. Moses was up on the Mt w/
God.

3. **Pastoral Pause:** Some
times we need to get away
and up on the mt w/ God!

B. They got restless and made
for themselves a god...
golden calf.

C. Moses came down the mt and
was so angry when he saw
what had happened that he

1. He melted down the golden
calf, ground into powder,
sprinkled it in the water, &
made them drink it.

2. Then he rebuked Aaron for
leading them poorly.

(**Note:** Leaders are judged
for going along with the
whims of the crowd too.)

3. v. 25 “Moses saw that the
people were running wild
and that Aaron had let
them get out of control and
so become a laughingstock
to their enemies.”

4. Moses asked them to
declare their allegiance to
God. (3000 ppl were
executed).

D. vv. 30-33 “The next day
Moses said to the people,
‘You have committed a
great sin. But now I will
go up to the Lord; perhaps
I can make atonement for
your sin.’

[31] So Moses went back
to the Lord and said, ‘Oh,
what a great sin these
people have committed!

They have made
themselves gods of gold.

[32] But now, please
forgive their sin—but if
not, then blot me out of the
book you have written.’

1. Sin is serious to God.
2. Repentance is essential to
atonement.
3. Sin has consequences.

III. Scripture: Exodus 33:1-18

A. After Genesis and before
Leviticus in the OT.

IV. Exposition

vv. 1-3

- A. God sends them on into the
promised land.
- B. An angel is going before them
to drive out the enemy.
- C. An angel? That is awesome!
- D. But He will not go with them.

vv. 4-6

- A. They began to mourn when
they heard the news.
 1. They did not put on jewelry
or dress up.
 2. They “stripped off their
ornaments at Mt Horeb.”
- B. What is their concern? ***That
God will not be going with
them.***

1. Though the outcome would
still be their dominance.
2. They would possess the land.
3. The angel would drive out
the enemy.

vv. 7-11

- A. Tent of meeting.
- B. When there was physical

vv. 12-18 (We get to listen in on
an intimate conversation
between God and his
servant Moses.)

A. v. 12-13 Moses pleads w/
God to teach him out to
please the Lord and lead
the ppl.

B. v. 14, God says His presence
will go with Moses and
give him rest.

C. v. 15-16 ***“If your Presence
does not go with us, do
not send us up from
here.”***

D. v. 17-18

1. “I will do the very thing
you have asked, because I
am pleased with you and I
know you by name.”
2. “Now show me your glory.”

V. Conclusion

A. As we look into the New
Year, maybe you’ve
thought about some things
you’d like to see happen.

1. COVID ends?
2. New job? New
relationship? Health?

Successful? Tragedy?
Blessings?

3. Eberhard Arnold, a Germany theologian said around 100 years ago: “Our world is shaking, about to erupt. Demonic powers are storming the church, like autumn storms sweeping through the woods. We live in a time when people everywhere are agitated; the masses are confused as to what is true and what is false; and yet they are waiting for what is ultimately to come.”

B. **Challenge:** As we look forward can I propose some things we need to do...

1. **Repent**

2. **Re-prioritize “needs”**

3. **Plead for His presence.**

C. Ill. Nov 18, 2020 at 9:30pm, I received a text from Barry Blakeman.

1. “When I am praying for you, I get the impression that you will emerge from this with a stronger anointing and more power in preaching than you have ever known before. Use it well. Barry”

2. I haven’t responded to that text.

D. **Point:** What really needs to

happen this year in my life is beyond my ability.

1. What my family needs...

2. What my church family needs...

3. There are ppl unprepared for eternity.

E. **Note:** And I’m not going to settle for an angel.

1. I’m not going to settle for a good attendance.

2. ...everyone being happy or content.

3. ...earthly measures of success.

4. I want the presence of God to go with me!

F. **Pastoral Pause:** Don’t look back (good or bad), but look forward and just imagine what might happen if the presence of God goes with us!

G. Will you join me?

1. Repent

2. Re-prioritize "needs"

3. Plead for His presence.

Response: