



Portion:

SCRIPTURES

- Exodus 30:11-34:35
- Luke 11:49-52
- II Chronicles 24:4-22
- John 13:1-17
- Joshua 24:14-28

Title:

SACRED COWS &

ALTERNATIVE ALTARS

- Holy Ground
- Defining Moments
- Fix Your Eyes
- No Way for Old Ways

We are all familiar with the outrageous act of service performed by our Savior after dinner, on the night He was betrayed. It's a moment in history about which books could be written. We can approach what He did from many angles: a mysterious lesson, a convicting exposé, an act of selflessness, a demonstration of serving leadership, an example of how to live, an exhibition of pure humility, a tutorial on priorities, or the substance of deep inspiration and reflection.

However, there is one exchange with Peter that really cuts to the marrow and which reveals the gravity of the situation. It's truly unexpected and might even seem out of character or inappropriate, considering the finality of the moment. Peter is adamant that His

Teacher and Lord “shall never wash his feet!” It’s a highly charged and emotional scene, and it’s completely understandable why Peter would feel as such. He’d much rather switch positions and hold his Master’s feet in his hands. He’d certainly prefer to cleanse the dust and dirt from between his Rabbi’s toes, than let his teacher soil His holy hands. Y’shua knows it, and meets Peter’s resistance with an explosive retort, “If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.”

And that is what we must explore today. What does He mean? What had inspired such a serious ultimatum? Why was the washing of His disciples feet so critical? What was the deeper prophetic warning? We find clues buried in the words of the Jews who marveled at His insight; “How does this Man know letters, having never studied?” And the secret to His wisdom becomes apparent by His elegant, yet simple response; “My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me.”

Yes, many books could be written about Y’shua’s actions after dinner that night; but His admonishment of Peter might be the most revealing of all. And you cannot fully appreciate to what He was referring, until you comprehend His masterful insights into the Laws of Moses. When you do, you will recognize that His resounding retort remains relevant even today! Paul also mastered this same understanding of the law; “Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law.”

THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE

““You shall also make a laver of bronze, with its base also of bronze, for washing. **You shall put it between the tabernacle of meeting and the altar.** And you shall put water in it, for Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet in water from it. **When they go into the tabernacle of meeting, or when they come near the altar** to minister, to burn an offering made by fire to the Lord, **they shall wash with water, lest they die.**” Exodus 30:18-20 NKJV

“And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, **and made a molded calf. Then they said, “This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!”** So when Aaron saw it, **he built an altar before it.** And Aaron made a proclamation and said, **“Tomorrow is a feast to the Lord”.** Then they rose early on the next day, **offered burnt offerings,** and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.” Exodus 32:4-6 NKJV

OUTCOME: MAIN TAKEAWAY(S) I AM HOPING FOR PEOPLE

“After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him, “Lord, are You washing my feet?” Jesus answered and said to him,

“What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this.” Peter said to Him, **“You shall never wash my feet!”** Jesus answered him, **“If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.”** Simon Peter said to Him, “Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!”” John 13:5-9 NKJV

““Now therefore, fear the Lord, **serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served** on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the Lord! And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, **choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve**, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. **But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.**”” Joshua 24:14-15 NKJV

Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. It's time to take a head count. This portion of scripture starts off with Moses being instructed to take a census, or in the Hebrew idiom, “lift up the head.” There are some final directions for completing the Tabernacle and a review of the Sabbath commandment. Then our reading turns to the golden calf incident, the violation of the covenant between God and Israel, and how Moses addresses the restoration of Israel's covenant

relationship with Yahweh. The reading contains some other popular pieces as well: the breaking of the first set of tablets; Moses' second forty days on the mountain (with no food or water), Yahweh speaking to him as a friend, and Moses' emergence with a second set of tablets with his face shining with the Glory of the Lord.

Exodus 30

2. The first census is ordered and each man twenty years old and above shall give a ransom for himself to Yahweh. The offering shall be a half-shekel per man (rich and poor alike), so there may be no plague among them. It will be used for the service of the Tabernacle and as a memorial.
3. **The Bronze Laver:** Next we have instructions for the placement and use of the Bronze Laver for the priests to wash their hands and feet before they make an offering by fire. This gives rise to the thoughts about our great High Priest Y'shua, who washed His disciples feet right before He became the offering. (I guess He was preparing them to be royal priests who would present Him as the offering for the sins of the world.)
4. **The Holy Anointing Oil:** Details on the spices and exact composition for the oil compound are given, for them to anoint the Tabernacle with all its contents and the Ark, so they are "most holy." It is also used to consecrate the priests as ministers

to Yahweh. It may not EVER be used for anointing outsiders (put on the flesh of non-priests), nor duplicated in composition as it is holy!

(a) *“It shall not be poured on man’s flesh; nor shall you make any other like it, according to its composition. It is holy, and it shall be holy to you.”* Exodus 30:32 NKJV

5. **The Incense:** Equal amounts of sweet spices are used to compound a fine incense. It is to be placed before the Ark of the Testimony. It too is holy and it’s formula may never be used for common purposes.

(a) **Note:** all of these instructions about the laver, oil, and incense can’t but awaken imagery of Y’shua and: the foot washing of His disciples (John 13:1-17); He being anointed with the expensive oil by Mary (John 12:1-8); and of course, the embalming spices used after His death (John 18:38-42).

(b) See last week’s potion for a detailed teaching about the imagery of oil and incense: [River Rocks](#)

Exodus 31

6. Then we see the call of the artisans to build everything having to do with the Tabernacle (see Exodus 31:1-11), as previously laid out in detail starting in Exodus 25. They are anointed by Yahweh with **wisdom, understanding, and knowledge**, to complete the tasks perfectly. (See the teaching called [Implanted](#)

[Sagacity](#) which emphasizes that where “God guides, God provides.”)

- (a) **Last Portion:** *“So you shall speak to all who are gifted artisans, **whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom**, that they may make Aaron’s garments, to consecrate him, that he may minister to Me as priest.”* Exodus 28:3 NKJV
- (b) **This Portion:** *“And I have **filled him with the Spirit of God**, in **wisdom**, in **understanding**, in **knowledge**, and in **all manner of workmanship**,”* (Exodus 31:3 NKJV) *“...and I have put **wisdom in the hearts** of all the gifted artisans, that they may make all that I have commanded you:”* Exodus 31:6 NKJV

- 7. **The Sabbath Law:** (See Exodus 31:12-17) We learn that the Sabbath was given as a “sign” (vv. 13 & 17), and we are reminded that it is “holy,” and that it serves as a reminder that God made the heavens and the earth in six days and that He rested and was refreshed on the seventh day.
- 8. At this point (v. 18) Yahweh gives Moses the two tablets of stone (the first set), *“written with the finger of God.”*

Exodus 32

- 9. **The Golden Calf Incident:** The people are impatient because they see Moses as being delayed in returning from the Mountain. They insist Aaron make them *“gods to go before us,”*

to replace the God who who brought them out of Egypt, because it seems that Moses has gone missing!

10. As a weak leader, Aaron complies with the demands of the people (see teaching notes and video [Fake News](#), notes page 19, Section: Mob Rule—what happens when the masses influence the leader’s decision?).
11. Aaron fashions a golden calf and the people say: *“This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!”* (Exodus 32:4b NKJV) and Aaron says, *“Tomorrow is a feast to the LORD.”* Exodus 32:5b NKJV
12. They sacrifice to the idol and then Yahweh tells Moses what is happening down below and that He is about to wipe them out.
13. Moses intercedes for the people as he “reasons” with Yahweh: He reminds Yahweh how He delivered them from Egypt, and of His promises to the Abraham, Isaac and Israel (Jacob), and that He promised to multiply their decedents as the stars of Heaven. Besides, what would the Egyptians think? “You brought them out of Egypt simply to kill them in the wilderness?” The Lord relents as per Moses’ petition.
14. Moses heads down the mountain, tablets written by God in hand, and when he sees the pagan revelry, he burns with anger and breaks the tablets at the base on the mountain. (See [Watch](#)

[Your Anger](#) to discover the dangers of acting out without thinking.)

15. Moses grinds the calf into dust and makes the people drink it!
16. Then Aaron offers the most ridiculous excuse. *“The people were impatient as they did not know what had become of you, so they asked for a new god; I collected some gold and cast it into the fire, and this calf came out.”* (Paraphrase Exodus 32:22-24)
Again I shall refer you to [Fake News](#).
17. Moses asks the unrestrained people to pick a side (Yahweh’s or otherwise) and he has those on the wrong side killed. Then Moses has those who performed the judgement prepared for a blessing, for coming against their sons and brothers, on behalf of Yahweh.
18. Moses then goes before Yahweh to ask that He forgive them. He is so committed to the people that He offers himself in Messiah-like fashion: *“Yet now, if You will forgive their sin—but if not, I pray, blot me out of Your book which You have written.”* Exodus 32:32 NKJV
19. God agrees to blot out only those who were personally involved and spare the others: *“And the LORD said to Moses, “Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book.”* Exodus 32:33 NKJV

20. Now Moses is told to take back the lead as it is apparent Aaron is not capable: *“Now therefore, go, lead the people...My angel shall go before you...those deserving of discipline will be punished when the time comes.”* Exodus 32:34

- (a) One last time I shall refer you to the teaching notes and video [Fake News](#).

Exodus 33

21. In Exodus 33, the people are commanded to leave Sinai, and head toward the promised land (the land flowing with milk and honey). God will send an angel to lead them, because if He goes Himself He says He'd consume them. The people are grieved by the warning and they set out after they remove their jewelry as commanded.

22. Moses then pitches his tent outside the camp and calls it *“the tabernacle of meeting”* (Exodus 33:7), and everyone who sought the Lord would go there. Each time Moses rose to enter, the people would stand at their tent doors and watch. When Moses would enter, the pillar of cloud would set at the door and Yahweh would speak to Moses.

23. Yahweh would speak to Moses face-to-face and then he would return to the camp. But Joshua would not depart from the tabernacle of meeting.

(a) *“So the LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. And he would return to the camp, but his servant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, **did not depart from the tabernacle.**”* Exodus 33:11 NKJV

(b) You see Joshua’s heart in his refusal to leave the tabernacle of meeting in the words of Hebrews 12:2 *“Fix your eyes on Jesus.”*

24. Then Moses begs God to show him the way to know Him and find grace on this coming journey, and to show him His glory. God promises that His presence will go before Moses and that when His glory is shown, that Moses will need to be hidden in the cleft of the Rock as to not see His face. (See Exodus 33:12-23).

Exodus 34

25. In Exodus 34, Moses is ordered to cut two new tablets of stone like the first ones, to replace the one the Moses broke, so God can rewrite the commands. The first set was given to him by Yahweh as we see in Exodus 24, but it seems he must cut the next set himself.

(a) **The first set cut by Yahweh:** *“Then the LORD said to Moses, “Come up to Me on the mountain and be there; and **I will give you tablets of stone, and the law and commandments**”*

which I have written, that you may teach them.” Exodus 24:12 NKJV

(b) **The second set cut by Moses:** *“And the LORD said to Moses, “**Cut two tablets of stone like the first ones**, and I will write on these tablets the words that were on the first tablets which you broke.”* Exodus 34:1 NKJV

26. We see that Yahweh will forgive iniquity and transgression, but the guilty will not be cleared and that the iniquity of the fathers will pass down three or four generations.

27. Moses prays that God will still take them as His inheritance, even though they have sinned, and Yahweh renews His covenant.

28. God says He will do with Israel what has never been done in all the earth. It will be an awesome thing. Be obedient and He will clear the way for them to take the land of promise.

29. He then warns...do not make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land whom you will displace, as it will become a snare to you.

(a) They are to break down their pagan altars, sacred pillars, and all pagan images. They are not to worship any other god! Yahweh is jealous!

- (b) DO NOT play harlot with their gods, or sacrifice to them, or marry into their families (their daughters will lead your sons astray.)
- (c) Don't repeat the Golden Calf incident and make any molded god ever again!

30. **Then we see these reminders:** The Feast of Unleavened Bread, and redemption of all the firstborns (man and animal). The Feast of Weeks, and the Feast of Tabernacles, and how three times per year they shall appear before God at the Feasts (Passover, Pentecost, and Tabernacles).

31. **Other Reminders:** Do not appear before the Lord empty handed; no leaven at Passover; and bring the Firstfruits of your harvest into the house of the Lord.

32. **Then this amazing verse:** *"Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write these words, for according to the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel.""* (Exodus 34:27 NKJV)

- (a) Moses is commanded to write the commands as they are the words that will govern the covenant relationship between God and man!

33. We find that Moses has spent his second forty days and forty nights on the mountain with no food or water and he gets his second set of completed tablets.

(a) **The first forty days and nights:** *“So 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.”*

Exodus 24:18 NKJV

(b) **The second forty days and nights:** *“So he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he neither ate bread nor drank water. And He wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments.”* Exodus 34:28 NKJV

34. Finally, in this lengthy portion, we end with Moses descending from the mountain. He did not know it, but his face was glowing with the glory of God. It frightened the people as he reiterated Yahweh’s commands, so Moses began to cover his face with a veil in front of the people. Each time he went in before Yahweh he would take the veil off and the glory of God would cover him. When he emerged in front of the people again, he would cover his face as they were afraid of the glory.

(a) You see this picture in Moses meeting with Yahweh in II Corinthians 3:7-18.

35. You can see last year’s teaching on this portion here: [Face Coverings](#)

HOLY GROUND

1. Consecrate Yourself before Your Meetings and Sacrifices

A. ...lest you die!

(1) Before you minister...lest you die!

(a) As you pass back and forth between the place you meet with Yahweh and the place you make your offerings, be cleansed. Wash your hands and feet!

1. "Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: "You shall also make a laver of bronze, with its base also of bronze, for washing. You shall put it **between the tabernacle of meeting and the altar**. And you shall put water in it, for **Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet in water from it. When they go into the tabernacle of meeting, or when they come near the altar to minister**, to burn an offering made by fire to the Lord, **they shall wash with water, lest they die. So they shall wash their hands and their feet, lest they die.** And it shall be a statute forever to them—to him and his descendants throughout their generations."" Exodus 30:17-21
NKJV

(2) Stop at the Bronze Laver between the Altar and the Place of Meeting (Reference Points)

(a) "You Shall Make..."

1. The Altar of Burnt offering—Exodus 27:1-8
2. The Altar of Incense—Exodus 30:1-10
3. The Bronze Laver—Exodus 30:17-21

(b) "He made..."

1. The Altar of Burnt offering—Exodus 38:1-7
2. The Altar of Incense—Exodus 37:25-28
3. The Bronze Laver—Exodus 38:8

(3) This is Holy Ground

(a) Don't come before the Lord with your dirty shoes. Don't drag your past affiliation with the things of the world into your relationship with God. Leave those things behind. Wash the dirt of the world off your feet; wash your hands of those matters!

1. **Holy Ground...** "So when the Lord saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then He said, "Do not draw near this place. **Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.**" Exodus 3:4-5 NKJV

2. **Consecrate yourself...** "Then the Lord said to Moses, "Go to the people and **consecrate them** today and

tomorrow, and let them **wash their clothes**. And let them be ready for the third day. For on the third day the Lord will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people.” Exodus 19:10-11 NKJV

3. **Clean hands and a pure heart...** “The earth is the Lord’s, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein. For He has founded it upon the seas, And established it upon the waters. Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who may stand in His holy place? He who has **clean hands and a pure heart**, Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive blessing from the Lord, And righteousness from the God of his salvation.” Psalms 24:1-5 NKJV

B. ...lest you have no part of Me!

- (1) If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me. (John 13:8)
 - (a) Peter was appalled that the King of the Kings and Lord of Lords would kneel before him to wash his disgusting feet, feet covered with the filth of the world. “You shall never wash my feet!” But Y’shua, the great Rabbit knew this... “So they shall wash their hands and their feet [before the presence of the Lord, before the sacrifice on

the altar], lest they die.” He was preparing His disciples, otherwise they could have “no part of Him!”

1. **What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this...** “Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that **His hour had come** that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, to betray Him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. After that, **He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet**, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him, **“Lord, are You washing my feet?”** Jesus answered and said to him, **“What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this.”** Peter said to Him, **“You shall never wash my feet!”** Jesus answered him, **“If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.”** *[they shall wash with*

water, lest they die. So they shall wash their hands and their feet, lest they die.] Simon Peter said to Him, **“Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!”** Jesus said to him, “He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you.” For He knew who would betray Him; therefore He said, “You are not all clean.” So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, **“Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.”** John 13:1-17 NKJV

- (b) Deep Prophetic Insight! Y’shua was able to reveal the deepest prophetic meaning hidden in the Laws of Moses and why they are so important to explore and understand. Without the purity of Law undergirding His

words and actions, all He would have been is another spiritual leader launching another man-made religion. But EVERYTHING He did brought greater clarity to “doctrines of His Father.” And that is precisely what He did at the table that night. “If you do not let Me wash you with water, you won’t be cleansed as the Law demands when you go back and forth between the Altar and the Meeting Place!”

1. “Now about the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and taught. **And the Jews marveled, saying, “How does this Man know letters, having never studied?”** Jesus answered them and said, **“My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me.** If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority. He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him. **Did not Moses give you the law, yet none of you keeps the law?** Why do you seek to kill Me?”” John 7:14-19 NKJV
2. Paul speaks of the need for a deep understanding of the Law of Moses like this: *“Do we then make void*

the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law.” Romans 3:31 NKJV

C. Those who refuse to be cleansed, resistant to consecration...

(1) Hate the message—kill the messenger!

(a) If you don't like the ones who insist you be cleansed before you present yourself or your offerings to Yahweh, simply eliminate the messenger. Y'shua knew that He was the water that would cleanse, and He also knew that many would refuse that water!

1. **Matthew...** “Therefore, indeed, I send you prophets, wise men, and scribes: some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from city to city, that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel **to the blood of Zechariah, son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar.**” Matthew 23:34-35 NKJV

2. **Luke...** “Therefore the wisdom of God also said, ‘I will send them prophets and apostles, and some of them they will kill and persecute,’ that the blood of all the prophets which was shed from the foundation of the world may be required of this generation, from

the blood of Abel **to the blood of Zechariah who perished between the altar and the temple.** Yes, I say to you, it shall be required of this generation. “Woe to you lawyers! For you have taken away the key of knowledge. You did not enter in yourselves, and those who were entering in you hindered.”” Luke 11:49-52 NKJV

3. **Water that cleanses the filth of your heart...** “Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.” Ezekiel 36:25-27 NKJV

4. **The Samaritan woman at Jacob’s well; living water springing up into everlasting life...** “Jesus answered and said to her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you **living water.**” The woman said to Him, “Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep.

Where then do You get that living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but **whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.**" John 4:10-14 NKJV

5. **Cleansing water straight from the heart of Y'shua...**

"But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and **immediately blood and water came out.**" (John 19:34 NKJV) "So when the centurion and those with him, who were guarding Jesus, saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they feared greatly, saying, **"Truly this was the Son of God!"**" Matthew 27:54 NKJV

(2) Stoned in the court of the house of the Lord—between the altar and the holy place

(a) Y'shua refers to "the blood of Zechariah, son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar." The setting clearly points to what was commanded to take place in Exodus 30:17-21, "they

shall wash their hands and their feet [between the tabernacle of meeting and the altar], lest they die” and what He would later insure was obeyed by His followers as He knelt at His disciples feet at the Last Supper... “If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.” There exists some controversy over which of the many Zechariahs this refers to, and there is one clear Old Testament reference that clues us in. The only problem with the Old Testament narrative is that it does not name Zechariah the son of Berechiah, but rather Zechariah the son of Jehoiada. This error is best corrected when we explore the earliest manuscripts of Matthew 23:34-35, and find it simply says, “the blood of Zechariah” with no reference to whose son he is, just like Luke’s translation (Luke 11:49-52).

1. “Then the Spirit of God came upon Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest, who stood above the people, and said to them, “Thus says God: **‘Why do you transgress the commandments of the Lord, so that you cannot prosper? Because you have forsaken the Lord, He also has forsaken you.’** ” So they conspired against him, and at the command of the king they stoned him with stones in the court of the house of

the Lord. Thus Joash the king did not remember the kindness which Jehoiada his father had done to him, but killed his son; and as he died, he said, "The Lord look on it, and repay!" II Chronicles 24:20-22 NKJV

(b) There is an amazing backstory to what led to the murder of Zechariah the Priest, who is just doing his duty!

Y'shua exposes the disobedient religious hypocrites for murdering Zechariah between the temple and the altar; they were doing a repeat performance of history! If you expose those who ... "transgress the commandments of the Lord," you are going to get hurt!

1. Jehoiada the chief priest is put in charge of repairing the Temple by king Joash. The Levites were slow in collecting money for the repairs so the king rebukes them. (See II Chronicles 24:1-7)
2. A serious collection of resources is made for the repairs (much like we will soon see for the golden calf). The people rejoiced to bring their contributions. (See II Chronicles 24:8-10)
3. They gathered resources in abundance and used them to restore the temple and articles (instead of pagan cows!). And then they offered burnt offerings

in the house of the Lord continually all the days of Jehoiada. (See II Chronicles 24:11-14)

4. But, then the chief priest Jehoiada dies. And the leaders of Judah came and convinced king Joash to abandon the house of the Lord God of their fathers, and to instead serve wooden images and idols. (See II Chronicles 24:15-18)
5. So, as God does so often to correct the misdirection of His people, He sends a prophet to bring them back to the Lord. The prophet testifies against them between the altar and the holy place, where they should be washed clean. But they would not listen.
6. Zechariah the son of Jehoiada convicts them of transgressing the commandments of the Lord, so they conspired against him, and at the command of king Joash they stoned him in the court of the house of the Lord. (See II Chronicles 24:19-22)

Summary: HOLY GROUND

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A. ...lest you die!

- (1) Before you minister...lest you die!

- (a) As you pass back and forth between the place you meet with Yahweh and the place you make your offerings, be cleansed. Wash your hands and feet!
- (2) Stop at the Bronze Laver between the Altar and the Place of Meeting (Reference Points)
 - (a) “You Shall Make...”
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 - (a) Don’t come before the Lord with your dirty shoes. Don’t drag your past affiliation with the things of the world into your relationship with God. Leave those things behind. Wash the dirt of the world off your feet; wash your hands of those matters!

B. ...lest you have no part of Me!

- (1) If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.
 - (a) Peter was appalled that the King of the Kings and Lord of Lords would kneel before him to wash his disgusting

feet, feet covered with the filth of the world. “You shall never wash my feet!” But Y’shua, the great Rabbit knew this... “So they shall wash their hands and their feet [before the presence of the Lord, before the sacrifice on the altar], lest they die.” He was preparing His disciples, otherwise they could have “no part of Him!”

- (b) Deep Prophetic Insight! Y’shua was able to reveal the deepest prophetic meaning hidden in the Laws of Moses and why they are so important to explore and understand. Without the purity of Law undergirding His words and actions, all He would have been is another spiritual leader launching another man-made religion. But EVERYTHING He did brought greater clarity to “doctrines of His Father.” And that is precisely what He did at the table that night. “If you do not let Me wash you with water, you won’t be cleansed as the Law demands when you go back and forth between the Altar and the Meeting Place!” Paul also speaks of the need for a deep understanding of the Law of Moses like this: *“Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law.”*

C. Those who refuse to be cleansed, resistant to consecration...

- (1) Hate the message—kill the messenger!

- (a) If you don't like the ones who insist you be cleansed before you present yourself or your offerings to Yahweh, simply eliminate the messenger. Y'shua knew that He was the water that would cleanse, and He also knew that many would refuse that water!
- (2) Stoned in the court of the house of the Lord—between the altar and the holy place
 - (a) Y'shua refers to “the blood of Zechariah, son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar.” The setting clearly points to what was commanded to take place in Exodus 30:17-21, “they shall wash their hands and their feet [between the tabernacle of meeting and the altar], lest they die” and what He would later insure was obeyed by His followers as He knelt at His disciples feet at the Last Supper... “If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.” There exists some controversy over which of the many Zechariahs this refers to, and there is one clear Old Testament reference that clues us in. The only problem with the Old Testament narrative is that it does not name Zechariah the son of Berechiah, but rather Zechariah the son of Jehoiada. This error is best corrected when we explore the earliest manuscripts of

Matthew 23:34-35, and find it simply says, “the blood of Zechariah” with no reference to whose son he is, just like Luke’s translation (Luke 11:49-52).

(b) There is an amazing backstory to what led to the murder of Zechariah the Priest, who is just doing his duty!

Y’shua exposes the disobedient religious hypocrites for murdering Zechariah between the temple and the altar; they were doing a repeat performance of history! If you expose those who ... “transgress the commandments of the Lord,” you are going to get hurt!

1. Jehoiada the chief priest is put in charge of repairing the Temple by king Joash. The Levites were slow in collecting money for the repairs so the king rebukes them. (See II Chronicles 24:1-7)
2. A serious collection of resources is made for the repairs (much like we will soon see for the golden calf). The people rejoiced to bring their contributions. (See II Chronicles 24:8-10)
3. They gathered resources in abundance and used them to restore the temple and articles (instead of pagan cows!). And then they offered burnt offerings in the house of the Lord continually all the days of Jehoiada. (See II Chronicles 24:11-14)

4. But, then the chief priest Jehoiada dies. And the leaders of Judah came and convinced king Joash to abandon the house of the Lord God of their fathers, and to instead serve wooden images and idols. (See II Chronicles 24:15-18)
5. So, as God does so often to correct the misdirection of His people, He sends a prophet to bring them back to the Lord. The prophet testifies against them between the altar and the holy place, where they should be washed clean. But they would not listen.
6. Zechariah the son of Jehoiada convicts them of transgressing the commandments of the Lord, so they conspired against him, and at the command of king Joash they stoned him in the court of the house of the Lord. (See II Chronicles 24:19-22)

DEFINING MOMENTS

**2. Aaron built an alternative altar and made a proclamation,
“Tomorrow is a feast to the Lord.”**

A. The Golden Calf Incident...How quickly we forget!

- (1) God’s way is taking too long; let’s do it our own way!
 - (a) We can’t wait any longer. Moses seems to be missing; let’s make a new god and a new altar.

1. “Now **when the people saw that Moses delayed** coming down from the mountain, the people gathered together to Aaron, and said to him, “**Come, make us gods that shall go before us;** for as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.””
Exodus 32:1 NKJV

(b) Sacred cows! I have a plan to make you happy and take the pressure off of me! This is your new god!

1. “And Aaron said to them, “**Break off the golden earrings which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.**” So all the people broke off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them to Aaron. And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and **made a molded calf.** Then they said, “**This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!**””
Exodus 32:2-4 NKJV

(c) New gods require new altars. And if anyone asks, just act like we are still worshiping Yahweh. By the way, if I create my own altar, I won't have to worry about all that

hand and foot washing between the altar and the Tabernacle of meeting, as we simply won't go there!

1. "So when Aaron saw it, **he built an altar before it.**

And Aaron made a proclamation and said,

"Tomorrow is a feast to the Lord." Then they rose

early on the next day, **offered burnt offerings,** and

brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to

eat and drink, and rose up to play." Exodus 32:5-6

NKJV

(d) [Yahweh to Moses] It did not take long for these people to become corrupted. They are down there worshiping a cow. Move "out the way" and I will incinerate them!

1. "And the Lord said to Moses, "Go, **get down! For**

your people whom you brought out of the land of

Egypt **have corrupted themselves. They have turned**

aside quickly out of the way which I commanded

them. **They have made themselves a molded calf,**

and worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'This

is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land

of Egypt!' " And the Lord said to Moses, "I have seen

this people, and indeed it is **a stiff-necked people!**

Now therefore, let Me alone, that My wrath may burn

hot against them and **I may consume them**. And I will make of you a great nation.”” Exodus 32:7-10 NKJV

(e) [Moses to Yahweh] Please! Wait! If You consume them, the Egyptians will conclude that You simply brought them out to wipe them out! Let me remind You of all Your promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob from long ago and I beg you to hold off! [And Yahweh held off!]

1. “Then **Moses pleaded with the Lord** his God, and said: “Lord, why does Your wrath burn hot against Your people whom You have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? **Why should the Egyptians speak**, and say, ‘**He brought them out to harm them, to kill them** in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth’? **Turn from Your fierce wrath, and relent** from this harm to Your people. **Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel**, Your servants, to whom You swore by Your own self, and said to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven; and all this land that I have spoken of I give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’ ” **So the Lord relented** from the harm which He said He would do to His people.” Exodus 32:11-14 NKJV

(f) Moses heads down the mountain with the two Tablets of Testimony in hand, written on both sides by God!

1. “And Moses turned and went down from the mountain, and the two **tablets of the Testimony were in his hand**. The tablets were written on both sides; on the one side and on the other they were written. Now the tablets were the work of God, and **the writing was the writing of God engraved on the tablets.**” Exodus 32:15-16 NKJV

(g) Joshua hears shouting in the camp as they descend from the mountain and thinks that there is a battle going on. Moses assures him that it is no fight, but actually a worship service—and not the type you’d hope for.

1. “And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they **shouted, he said to Moses, “There is a noise of war in the camp.”** But he said: “It is not the noise of the shout of victory, Nor the noise of the cry of defeat, **But the sound of singing I hear.**”” Exodus 32:17-18 NKJV

(h) Moses asks God to withhold His anger, but his own initial response is not quite a foot washing. It’s more like a “lest you die” or “you will have no part of Me” approach.

1. “So it was, as soon as he came near the camp, that he saw the calf and the dancing. **So Moses’ anger became hot, and he cast the tablets out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain.** Then he **took the calf** which they had made, **burned it in the fire**, and ground it to powder; and he **scattered it on the water and made the children of Israel drink it.**”

Exodus 32:19-20 NKJV

- (i) Moses then confronts his brother Aaron and asks him what the people did to him to cause him to harm them by letting them become so defiled. Aaron deflects all blame on the people. “They wanted a new god, and they gave me all that gold. I just tossed it in a fire and that golden calf popped out!” Arguably this is one of the greatest examples of failed leadership in the Bible.

1. “And Moses said to Aaron, **“What did this people do to you that you have brought so great a sin upon them?”** So Aaron said, **“Do not let the anger of my Lord become hot. You know the people, that they are set on evil.** For they said to me, ‘**Make us gods** that shall go before us; as for this **Moses**, the man who brought us out of the land of Egypt, **we do not know what has become of him.**’ And I said to them,

‘Whoever has any gold, let them break it off.’ **So they gave it to me, and I cast it into the fire, and this calf came out.**” Exodus 32:21-24 NKJV

(j) Ultimatum time—Pick a side! “Whoever is on the Lord’s side—come to me!” Men on Yahweh’s side take up swords and kill three thousand offenders!

1. “Now when Moses saw that the people were unrestrained (for Aaron had not restrained them, to their shame among their enemies), 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. 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.**’ ” So the sons of Levi did according to the word of Moses. And about **three thousand men of the people fell that day.**” Exodus 32:25-28 NKJV

2. Pick a side is a common theme in the scriptures. Elijah did it when he came up against the prophets of

Ba'al in I Kings 18:20-40. And Joshua gave the people an ultimatum in Joshua 24:14-28.

3. Also notice that 3000 people died at Sinai and 3000 people came to the faith at Pentecost in Acts 2, seemingly as the prophetic correction. Read the whole chapter: *“And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse generation.” Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about **three thousand souls were added to them.**”* Acts 2:40-41 NKJV)
- (k) It's time for a washing for those who remain. Consecrate yourself and get ready. Here we are back to the theme, wash your hands and feet between the altar and the Tabernacle of meeting. [See [Cancellation Policy](#) for a deeper teaching on getting prepared!]
 1. “Then Moses said, **“Consecrate yourselves today to the Lord,** that He may bestow on you a blessing this day, for every man has opposed his son and his brother.”” Exodus 32:29 NKJV
- (l) Moses wanted to make atonement for those who repented after they had sinned. Does this sound familiar? He is so desperate to secure forgiveness for

them that he is willing to trade his own life for theirs. Does this sound familiar? (See Y'shua's and Paul's offer below.)

1. "Now it came to pass on the next day that Moses said to the people, "You have committed a great sin. So now I will go up to the Lord; **perhaps I can make atonement for your sin.**" 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! **Yet now, if You will forgive their sin—but if not, I pray, blot me out of Your book which You have written.**" Exodus 32:30-32 NKJV
 - a) **Y'shua:** "**Greater love** has no one than this, than to **lay down one's life for his friends.**" John 15:13 NKJV
 - b) **Paul:** "For **I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren,** my countrymen according to the flesh," Romans 9:3 NKJV
- (m) Those who did not repent are out of the Book of Life. Those who sinned and repented are forgiven, but there will still be some natural consequences.

1. “And the Lord said to Moses, “**Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book.** 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.” So the Lord plagued the people because of what they did with the calf** which Aaron made.”

Exodus 32:33-35 NKJV

- (n) The people mourn their reality and remove any final semblance of idolatry. Those who refuse will go the way of the three thousand who were already consumed.
1. “And when the people heard this bad news, they mourned, and no one put on his ornaments. For the Lord had said to Moses, “Say to the children of Israel, ‘You are a stiff-necked people. I could come up into your midst in one moment and consume you. **Now therefore, take off your ornaments, that I may know what to do to you.’** ” So the children of Israel stripped themselves of their ornaments by Mount Horeb.”

Exodus 33:4-6 NKJV

Summary: DEFINING MOMENTS

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A. The Golden Calf Incident...How quickly we forget!

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 - (a) We can’t wait any longer. Moses seems to be missing; let’s make a new god and a new altar.
 - (b) Sacred cows! I have a plan to make you happy and take the pressure off of me! This is your new god!
 - (c) New gods require new altars. And if anyone asks, just act like we are still worshiping Yahweh. By, the way, if I create my own altar, I won’t have to worry about all that hand and foot washing between the altar and the Tabernacle of meeting, as we simply won’t go there!
 - (d) [Yahweh to Moses] It did not take long for these people to become corrupted. They are down there worshipping a cow. Move “out the way” and I will incinerate them!
 - (e) [Moses to Yahweh] Please! Wait! If You consume them, the Egyptians will conclude that You simply brought them out to wipe them out! Let me remind You of all Your promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob from long ago and I beg you to hold off! [And Yahweh held off!]

- (f) Moses heads down the mountain with the two Tablets of Testimony in hand, written on both sides by God!
- (g) Joshua hears shouting in the camp as they descend from the mountain and thinks that there is a battle going on. Moses assures him that it is no fight, but actually a worship service—and not the type you’d hope for.
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- (m) Those who did not repent are out of the Book of Life. Those who sinned and repented are forgiven, but there will still be some natural consequences.
- (n) The people mourn their reality and remove any final semblance of idolatry. Those who refuse will go the way of the three thousand who were already consumed.

FIX YOUR EYES

3. Daily Visits to the Tabernacle

A. The Place to Meet with Yahweh

(1) Moses and the tent of meeting....

(a) Moses would go back and forth to the Tabernacle to seek answers from the Lord. It was clear that the Lord would meet him there.

1. **“Moses took his tent and pitched it outside the camp, far from the camp, and called it the tabernacle of meeting. And it came to pass that everyone who sought the Lord went out to the tabernacle of meeting which was outside the camp. [and had to wash first]** So it was, whenever Moses went out to the tabernacle, that all the people rose, and each man stood at his tent door and watched Moses until he had gone into the tabernacle. And it came to pass, **when Moses entered the tabernacle, that the pillar of cloud descended and stood at the door of the tabernacle, and the Lord talked with Moses.** All the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the tabernacle door, and all the people rose and worshiped, each man in his tent door.” Exodus 33:7-10 NKJV

(2) Joshua and the tent to meeting...

(a) Moses would go back and forth between the tent of meeting and the camp, but Joshua would not depart from the tabernacle.

1. "So the Lord spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. **And he would return to the camp, but his servant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, did not depart from the tabernacle.**"

Exodus 33:11 NKJV

(b) What does it look like for you to "not depart from the tabernacle?" It would mean that you would lay aside anything that could hinder you, and lock in on Y'shua!

1. "Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, **let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us**, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, **looking unto Jesus**, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Hebrews 12:1-2 NKJV

(c) Because Joshua would not depart from the tabernacle, he was locked onto Yahweh and His presence. As such

he had the testimony and clout that could demand unwavering allegiance to God and the rejection of every other god! Choose whom you will serve. And be sure you know how serious your choice is. If you choose Yahweh, he will hold you accountable if you go back to your sacred cows!

1. ““Now therefore, fear the Lord, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the Lord! **And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve,** whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. **But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.**” So the people answered and said: “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for the Lord our God is He who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, who did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way that we went and among all the people through whom we passed. And the Lord drove out from before us all the people,

including the Amorites who dwelt in the land. We also will serve the Lord, for He is our God." But Joshua said to the people, **"You cannot serve the Lord, for He is a holy God. He is a jealous God; He will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins.** If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then He will turn and do you harm and consume you, after He has done you good." And the people said to Joshua, **"No, but we will serve the Lord!"** So Joshua said to the people, **"You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord for yourselves, to serve Him."** [*an example!*] And they said, "We are witnesses!" "Now therefore," he said, "put away the foreign gods which are among you, and incline your heart to the Lord God of Israel." And the people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and His voice we will obey!" So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made for them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem. Then Joshua wrote these words in the Book of the Law of God. And he took a large stone, and set it up there under the oak that was by the sanctuary of the Lord. And Joshua said to all the people, "Behold, this stone

shall be a witness to us, for it has heard all the words of the Lord which He spoke to us. It shall therefore be a witness to you, lest you deny your God." So Joshua let the people depart, each to his own inheritance."
Joshua 24:14-28 NKJV

2. You will understand one day what it means to be a "witness against yourself!" Judas allowed Y'shua to wash His feet and then he betrayed Him. He was a witness against himself.
 - a) "Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, **but you will know after this.**" John 13:7 NKJV
 - b) "Jesus said to him, "He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, **but not all of you.**" **For He knew who would betray Him;** therefore He said, "You are not all clean." John 13:10-11 NKJV
 - c) "For I have **given you an example**, that you should do as I have done to you." John 13:15 NKJV
 - d) "And the people said to Joshua, "No, but **we will serve the Lord!**" So Joshua said to the people, "**You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord** for yourselves, to serve Him." And

they said, "We are witnesses!" And Joshua said to all the people, "Behold, **this stone shall be a witness to us, for it has heard all the words of the Lord which He spoke to us.** It shall therefore be a witness to you, lest you deny your God.'" Joshua 24:21-22, 27 NKJV

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 - (a) Moses would go back and forth between the tent of meeting and the camp, but Joshua would not depart from the tabernacle.
 - (b) What does it look like for you to "not depart from the tabernacle?" It would mean that you would lay aside anything that could hinder you, and lock in on Y'shua!
 - (c) Because Joshua would not depart from the tabernacle, he was locked onto Yahweh and His presence. As such

he had the testimony and clout that could demand unwavering allegiance to God and the rejection of every other god! Choose whom you will serve. And be sure you know how serious your choice is. If you choose Yahweh, he will hold you accountable if you go back to your sacred cows!

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NO WAY FOR OLD WAYS

4. New Directions

A. Unless You Lead the Way

(1) A prayer for direction...

- (a) [Moses to Yahweh] Show me the way I should go. I need You to direct me. These people are stiff-necked already and are likely to be very difficult to lead, like herding cats. But, if I do not have You to tell me exactly where to go and what to do, then it becomes a guaranteed impossibility.

1. “Then Moses said to the Lord, “See, You say to me, ‘Bring up this people.’ But You have not let me know

whom You will send with me. Yet You have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found grace in My sight.' Now therefore, **I pray, if I have found grace in Your sight, show me now Your way, that I may know You and that I may find grace in Your sight.** And consider that this nation is Your people.'"
Exodus 33:12-13 NKJV

- (b) [Yahweh to Moses] Rest easy Moses. I assure you that I will go before you. You will find rest for your soul.
1. "And He said, "**My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.**"" Exodus 33:14 NKJV
 2. **You will find rest for your souls...** "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and **you will find rest for your souls.** For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.'" Matthew 11:28-30 NKJV
- (c) [Moses to Yahweh] Just to be clear, if You won't lead, I won't go. For us to be a set-apart people You have to lead every step of the way.
1. "Then he said to Him, "**If Your Presence does not go with us, do not bring us up from here.** For how then will it be known that Your people and I have found

grace in Your sight, except You go with us? **So we shall be separate**, Your people and I, from all the people who are upon the face of the earth.”” Exodus 33:15-16 NKJV

(d) [Yahweh to Moses] I will lead you Moses, just as you have asked.

1. “So the Lord said to Moses, “**I will also do this thing that you have spoken; for you have found grace in My sight**, and I know you by name.”” Exodus 33:17 NKJV

(2) Here’s what it will look like

(a) It’s simple...follow My glory. It’s not like you are following a man. You do not need to see Me as if I am human. Just follow My glory as I lead the way.

1. “And he said, “Please, show me Your glory.” Then He said, “I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before you. **I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.**” But He said, “You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live.” And the Lord said, “Here is a place by Me, and you shall stand on the rock. So it shall be, while **My glory passes by**, that I

will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by. Then I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back; but My face shall not be seen.” Exodus 33:18-23 NKJV

2. **Follow the glory!** “Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. **But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord,** are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.” II Corinthians 3:17-18 NKJV

B. No Going Back

- (1) You cannot worship any old way!
 - (a) This new direction is going to be awesome!
 1. “And He said: “Behold, I make a covenant. Before all your people I will do marvels such as have not been done in all the earth, nor in any nation; and all the people among whom you are shall see the work of the Lord. **For it is an awesome thing that I will do with you.**” Exodus 34:10 NKJV
 - (b) But do not think for a moment you can mix and match with the pagans along the way. It will ruin you.
 1. “Observe what I command you this day. Behold, I am driving out from before you the Amorite and the

Canaanite and the Hittite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite. **Take heed to yourself, lest you make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land where you are going, lest it be a snare in your midst.**" Exodus 34:11-12 NKJV

- (c) Instead of getting in bed with them, why don't you do the exact opposite! Destroy every semblance of their paganism from their midst! Don't get involved with their rituals nor their women. Both will be your downfall.
1. **"But you shall destroy their altars, break their sacred pillars, and cut down their wooden images** (for you shall worship no other god, for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God), lest you make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, and they **play the harlot with their gods** and make sacrifice to their gods, and one of them invites you and you eat of his sacrifice, and you take of his daughters for your sons, **and his daughters play the harlot with their gods and make your sons play the harlot with their gods.** "You shall make no molded gods for yourselves." Exodus 34:13-17 NKJV
 - (2) For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles...

(a) Do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation that the pagans do. Don't get involved with their rituals nor their women. Both will be your downfall.

1. "Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God. **For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles**—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries. In regard to these, they think it strange that you **do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation**, speaking evil of you. They will give an account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead." I Peter 4:1-5 NKJV

(b) Trust Me, did you see what happened to the three thousand at Mount Sinai? And did you see what happened even to those who survived after they repented? They still suffered consequences. For you, if you go back to your old ways, it will be worse than if you never left your old ways in the first place.

1. “For if, **after they have escaped the pollutions of the world** through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they **are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning**. For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them.” II Peter 2:20-21 NKJV

Summary: NO WAY FOR OLD WAYS

4. New Directions

A. Unless You Lead the Way

(1) A prayer for direction...

- (a) [Moses to Yahweh] Show me the way I should go. I need You to direct me. These people are stiff-necked already and are likely to be very difficult to lead, like herding cats. But, if I do not have You to tell me exactly where to go and what to do, then it becomes a guaranteed impossibility.
- (b) [Yahweh to Moses] Rest easy Moses. I assure you that I will go before you. You will find rest for your soul.

(c) [Moses to Yahweh] Just to be clear, if You won't lead, I won't go. For us to be a set-apart people You have to lead every step of the way.

(d) [Yahweh to Moses] I will lead you Moses, just as you have asked.

(2) Here's what it will look like

(a) It's simple...follow My glory. It's not like you are following a man. You do not need to see Me as if I am human. Just follow My glory as I lead the way.

B. No Going Back

(1) You cannot worship any old way!

(a) This new direction is going to be awesome!

(b) But do not think for a moment you can mix and match with the pagans along the way. It will ruin you.

(c) Instead of getting in bed with them, why don't you do the exact opposite! Destroy every semblance of their paganism from their midst! Don't get involved with their rituals nor their women. Both will be your downfall.

(2) For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles...

(a) Do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation that the pagans do. Don't get involved with their rituals nor their women. Both will be your downfall.

(b) Trust Me, did you see what happened to the three thousand at Mount Sinai? And did you see what happened even to those who survived after they repented? They still suffered consequences. For you, if you go back to your old ways, it will be worse than if you never left your old ways in the first place.

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

- 1. There is a prophetic meaning behind the command for the priests to wash their hands and feet in Exodus 30:17-21. Relate this to:**
 - A. Moses taking off his saddles in Exodus 3:4-5.
 - B. The call to consecrate yourself by the washing of your clothes in Exodus 19:10-11.
 - C. David's words about clean hands and a pure heart in Psalms 24:1-5.

- 2. Y'shua kneels down to wash the feet of His disciples in John 13:1-17:**
 - A. What is Peter's response?
 - B. What is Y'shua's warning to Peter?
 - C. How might this exchange relate to Exodus 30:17-21?

- D. How might these two narratives be connected through Y'shua's words in John 7:14-19 and Paul's words in Romans 3:31?
 - E. How is water related to cleansing in Ezekiel 36:25-27; John 4:10-14, 19:34; and Matthew 27:54?
- 3. Y'shua makes reference in Luke 11:49-52 to a murder that takes place in the very setting mentioned in Exodus 30:17-21**
- A. Describe to what He is referring. (Hint: II Chronicles 24:1-22)
- 4. In Exodus 32:1-6, Aaron built an alternative altar and made a proclamation, "Tomorrow is a feast to the Lord."**
- A. How might this rebellious action of erecting an alternative altar be viewed using the commands of Exodus 30:17-21?
 - B. In Exodus 32:17-18, Joshua hear noise in the camp and thinks it's a war. What does Moses tell him it is? How might this relate to misdirected worship in the modern Church?
- 5. Moses confronts his brother Aaron in Exodus 32:21-24 about the sacred cow he has erected...**
- A. What is Aaron's response and how does it demonstrate failed leadership?
 - B. The people are ultimately required to pick a side in Exodus 32:25-28; how does this relate to Joshua 24:14-28 and I Kings 18:20-40?

- 6. In Exodus 33:7-10, we see Moses going back and forth between the Tabernacle and the camp...**
- A. What is curious about what Joshua does? (Hint: Exodus 33:11)
 - B. Relate Joshua's approach to Hebrews 12:1-2.
- 7. After the Golden Calf incident, Moses is desperate for direction...**
- A. Describe in your own words his exchange with Yahweh and the ultimate outcome. (See Exodus 33:12-23)
 - B. Relate Exodus 33:14 with Matthew 11:28-30.
 - C. Relate Exodus 33:18-23 with II Corinthians 3:7-18.
- 8. Exodus 34:11-17 makes it clear that God's people are to steer clear of pagan worship and pagan women...**
- A. Relate those instruction to Peter's words in I Peter 4:1-5 and II Peter 2:20-21.
 - B. What is the common warning from both Exodus and Peter?