

## Sermon Outline

### Exodus, Part 13: The Golden Calf

Exodus 32:1-35

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**Main Idea:** The recounting of Israel's sin in creating a golden calf to worship reminds us that the sin of idolatry is deadly serious; but forgiveness is possible through God's provision of an intercessor. What hope we have through our Lord Jesus Christ.

#### Sermon Outline:

1. The Sin of Idolatry (v1-6)
2. The Seriousness of Idolatry (v7-10, 15-20)
3. God's Provision for Idolatry (v11-14, 30-32)

#### Key Quotes:

"What is an idol? It is anything more important to you than God, anything that absorbs your heart and imagination more than God, anything you seek to give you what only God can give... An idol is whatever you look at and say, in your heart of hearts, 'If I have that, then I'll feel my life has meaning, then I'll know I have value, then I'll feel significant and secure.' There are many ways to describe that kind of relationship to something, but perhaps the best one is *worship*." -Timothy Keller

*"Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, 'The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play' ... Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry."* (1 Corinthians 10:6-7, 14)

#### Fellowship Starters:

1. Read Exodus 20:1-6 and then 32:1 – 35 and open in prayer.
2. Discuss the nature of idolatry and why it is so destructive and harmful.
3. Re-read the quote from Tim Keller and discuss the nature of idolatry as more generally expressed in today's culture.
4. Read Romans 1:18-32 and discuss how we are not only daily tempted to diminish these regular expressions of sin, but actually encouraged to see them as something good for us.
- 5.2 Timothy 3:16 informs us that "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable." Read 1 Cor. 10:6-7 and 14 above and discuss how God has given us the ability through his word to know good from evil and be protected from the lies of our own flesh, the lies of the world, and the lies and temptations of the devil.
6. In light of this, close in prayer for one another, reminding one another of God's full atonement for us in and through our LORD and Savior Jesus Christ, and also pray that we might be a people who more and more seek after our God in His Word and seek to live in the good of his ways and righteousness.