

HOW SHOULD WE RESPOND
TO SINFUL BEHAVIOUR?

SIN OF IDOL WORSHIP

EXODUS 32

INTRODUCTION

- When ever we see a sinful behavior, we should respond by righteous indignation, abundant Grace and fervent intercessory prayer.
- In Exodus 32, we see this in the life of Moses.

SIN OF IDOLATRY

- We should not worship idols.
- The Israelites committed a serious sin by making a golden calf and worshiped at its alter. Ex 32:1-6
- It made God very angry. He wanted to wipe out the whole nation. Ex 32: 7-9

WHY GOD HATES IDOLATRY?

- It is disobedience to His command.
- It replaces God with something which is not God.
- It rejects God's leadership.
- It demonstrate lack of trust in God.
- It shows that man can control God.

MODERN IDOLS

- We may not have idols made with hands but we need to be aware of modern idols which can replace God in our life. Following is the partial list of modern day Christian idols.
- Money and Materialism.
- Self, Sports and Celebrities.
- Greed and Pride.

RIGHTEOUS INDIGNATION OF GOD AND MOSES

- We should show our righteous indignation, when ever we see a sinful behavior in the body of Christ.
- God was angry with Israel and Aaron.
- Moses showed his anger by breaking the tablets of Ten Commandments and killing three thousands Israelites. Ex 32:7-9;19-29

NEW TESTAMENT EXAMPLES

- Our Lord Jesus Christ cleansed the temple courts in His earthly ministry. John 2:13-18 and Mt 21:12-13.
- Apostle Paul instructs the Corinthian Church to discipline the immoral brother. 1Cor 5
- Paul got angry with Peter. Gal 2:11-14

ABUNDANT GRACE OF GOD AND MOSES TOWARDS THE ISRALITES

- We should also show abundant GRACE towards those who are fallen in sin.
- God could have destroyed the nation at that very moment but He relented and forgave them.
- Moses prayed for God's favor and forgiveness. Ex 32:11-14;31-32

NEW TESTAMENT EXAMPLES

- Our Lord showed GRACE to apostle Peter.
- Apostle Paul writes in Gal 6:1 “ Brothers, if someone is caught in sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently”.
- Restoration should be the principle of righteous indignation and should be done with heavy dose of GRACE.

MOSES FERVENTLY INTERCEDED FOR THE ISRALITES

- We should fervently intercede for those who have fallen in sinful behavior.
- Moses prayed for the nation. Ex 32:11-14;30-32
- James 5:13-19 talks about the power of fervent intercessory prayer.

CONCLUSION

- Chapter 32 is the saddest chapter in the book of Exodus. Because of poor leadership and rebelliousness of the Israelites they committed a serious sin towards the God who has brought them out of the land of slavery to freedom.
- God could have destroyed the whole nation but instead, He showed grace and forgave them on Moses intervention.

APPLICATION

- We should not **WORSHIP IDOLS**.
- We should show **RIGHTEOUS INDIGNATION** towards sinful behavior.
- We should show **ABUNDANT GRACE** to those who have fallen in to sin.
- We should **FERVENTLY INTERCEDE** for those who are fallen in sin.