

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS

October 15, 2025

Exodus 32:11-32

Introduction:

1. Seeing the sin of Israel, God was angry and told Moses, *“let me alone, that My wrath may burn hot against this people and I may consume them”* (Ex. 32.10; 33-35).
2. Bringing the sin of Israel to the attention of Moses, Moses responded in two ways.
 - a) Notice that Moses did not respond selfishly. (Ex. 32.10)
 - b) He responded out of love for God and His people.

I. MOSES RESPONDS TO GOD

A. **Exodus 32.11:** *“Then Moses pleaded with the LORD his God”*

1. Pleaded (hala): *“to be ill, sick, be weak, be faint.”* [Mounce] (cf. Mal. 1.9,10)
2. Moses was sickened over the sin of Israel and the wrath of God and approached God from a state of humility and distress. (Deut. 9.18-20; Ps. 106.23)

B. How did Moses appease God’s wrath? (cf.

1. Moses appealed to the love of God.
 - a) **Exodus 32.11:** *“Your people whom You have brought out...”*
 - b) Why did God save Israel from the Egyptians? (Ex. 3.7; Ps. 106.44-46)
2. Moses appealed to the honor of God.
 - a) **Exodus 32.12:** *“Why should the Egyptians speak, and say...”*
 - b) God was concerned about His reputation. (Num. 14.15,16; Ezek. 36.19-22)
3. Moses appealed to the promise of God.
 - a) **Exodus 32.13:** *“Remember...Your servants, to whom You swore.”*
 - b) God keeps His promises. (Heb. 6.13-16,18)

C. God listened to Moses.

1. **Exodus 32.14:** *“So the LORD relented from the harm which He said He would do to His people.”* God is angry but also merciful. (cf. Jonah 4.2)
2. God listens to us when we come to Him as Moses did. (1 Pet. 3.12; James 1.5,6)

II. MOSES RESPONDS TO THE ISRAELITES

A. Moses comes down the mountain with Joshua.

1. **Exodus 32.15,16:** He carries the Ten Commandments.
2. **Exodus 32.17,18:** Did Moses know what to expect? (vs. 7,8)
3. In Hebrew parallelism, Moses responds in heightened emotion.

B. Moses enters the camp.

1. **Exodus 32.19:** *“He saw the calf and the dancing”* (cf. v. 9)
2. **Exodus 32.19:** *“Moses’ anger became hot.”* (cf. v. 10)
3. **Exodus 32.22:** *“Do not let the anger of my Lord become hot”* (cf. v. 11)

C. Moses punishes the Israelites. (Ex. 32.20,21,25-29)