

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS

November 5, 2025

Exodus 33:1ff

Introduction:

1. **Exodus 32.30:** *"Now it came to pass on the next day..."*
 - a) The morning after the severity of their sin was realized. (Ex. 32.28,29),
 - b) Moses goes up to God to step into the gap. (cf. Ezek. 22.30).
2. The transition into chapter 33 finds Israel leaving Sinai under the tension of their strained relationship with God.

I. MOSES APPROACHES GOD ON THE MOUNTAIN

- A. The intercession of Moses.
 1. Intercession: Literally, plea on behalf of another. (cf. 1 Tim. 2.1)
 - 2 **Exodus 32.30,31:** *"Perhaps I can make atonement for your sin."* (v. 11)
 3. Jesus is our intercessor today. (Rom. 8.34; Heb. 7.25)
- B. The mediation of Moses.
 1. Mediation: From the root meaning, "middle." A go-between.
 2. **Exodus 32.32:** *"I pray, blot me out of Your book which You have written."*
 3. Jesus is our Mediator who took on our sins. (1 Pet. 2.24; 3.18; Heb. 9.15)
- C. The punishment of God.
 1. Punishment: Literally, "inspect; to count; to number." To hold accountable.
 2. **Exodus 32.33-35:** *"the LORD plagued the people because of what they did"*
 3. Outside of Jesus, there is a pending punishment. (2 Thess. 1.7-9; Heb. 10.27-31)

II. ISRAEL DEPARTS FROM THE MOUNTAIN

- A. The absence of God.
 1. **Exodus 33.1:** God will still keep His promise. (cf. Deut. 9.4-6,24; 10.10,11)
 2. **Exodus 33.2:** God will send His Angel. (cf. Ex. 23.20-24)
 3. **Exodus 33.3:** God will not be with them. (Ps. 78.8; Isa. 50.1; 1 John 1.5)
- B. The anger from God.
 1. **Exodus 33.3:** *"lest I consume you on the way"* Danger!
 2. **Exodus 33.3:** *"for you are a stiff-necked people."* Diagnosis!
 3. **Exodus 33.5:** *"that I may know what to do with you."* Dilemma!
- C. The anguish to God.
 1. **Exodus 33.4:** *"When the people heard this bad news."*
 2. **Exodus 33.4:** *"they mourned"*
 - a) Internal anguish: Mourning as an expression of the heart. (Hos. 7.14)
 - b) External anguish. Mourning as expressed in their attire. (Isa. 32.11)
 3. **Exodus 33.6:** *"So the children of Israel stripped themselves of their ornaments by Mount Horeb."* Literally, from Horeb onward.