

February 26, 2021 Handouts

The Law

Read

Exodus:
32:1-35

Numbers:
13:17-14:35; 20:2-13

Deuteronomy:
5:6-21; 6:4-5
7:1-5; 10:12-16
28:58-68; 34:1-12

The Golden Calf Changes Israel's Relationship with God

- The people of Israel have Aaron make an idol for them to worship
- The "golden calf" is a fertility god like the ones they knew in Egypt
- Worshipping the golden calf not only involves idolatry but immoral behavior also.

The Institution of the Priesthood

- The Israelites' rejection of God causes God to reject them
- Moses pleads for the people
- The tribe of Levi earns its priesthood by attacking idolatry

After the Fall

- By falling into idolatry, Israel loses some of its unique relationship with God
- The Levites assume the priesthood would have belonged to all the people
- The laws given after the golden calf are meant to teach humility and holiness

Heaven on Earth

- Moses receives instructions for building the Tabernacle
- The design of the Tabernacle is an earthly representation of the heavenly temple

The Law

- The book of Leviticus teaches Israel to be a holy people
- The deaths of Aaron's sons showed how important it was to follow the rules precisely

In the Wilderness

- Spies come back from Canaan with a pessimistic report
- The people despair and rebel
- As punishment for their lack of faith, the rebellious generation will not enter the Promised Land
- Moses loses patience and shares the people's punishment

The Constitution of Israel

- Israel falls into idolatry again at Beth-peor
- In Deuteronomy, Moses gives the people a new constitution for the state of Israel
- Many laws in Deuteronomy make concessions to Israel's hard hearts
- Deuteronomy is also a prophetic road map for Israel's history
- Like the U.S. Constitution, Deuteronomy is amended as times change

A Look at Israel and America

United States: King George III	Israel: Pharaoh
Colonies oppressed by King George III	Tribes oppressed by Pharaoh
Escaped from tyranny through the Declaration of Independence	Escaped from tyranny through Exodus
Temporary government under the Articles of Confederation	Temporary government in Deuteronomy
Final form of government in the Constitution of the United States	Final form of government in Deuteronomy
States amend the Constitution to deal with new circumstances	God's prophets amend Deuteronomy to deal with new circumstances

A Close Look at Deuteronomy

- 1. Chapters 1-4: Moses' Introductory Speech**
 - a. Chapters 1-3: Historical introduction
 - b. Chapter 4: Reason for obeying the law
- 2. Chapters 5-11: The Law of Sinai**
 - a. Chapters 5:7-21: The Ten Commandments
 - b. Chapter 6:4-5: The Great Commandment
 - c. Chapter 7:1-5: The Law of Separation from the Canaanites
 - d. Chapter 9:7-29: A reminder of the golden calf incident
 - e. Chapter 10:12-13: What God requires
- 3. Chapters 12-26: The Constitution of Israel**
- 4. Chapter 27: The Ratification Ceremony**
- 5. Chapters 28-30: The Prophet Road Map**
- 6. Chapters 31-34: The Last days of Moses**

Vocabulary Review

1. Caleb
2. Constitution

3. Deuteronomy
4. Genocide
5. Golden Calf
6. Joshua
7. Levites
8. Leviticus
9. Priest
10. YHWH