## Sermon Notes for September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## "The Cost of Disobedience"

## Sermon Text: Exodus 32:25-35 (p. 92); New Testament Text: Romans 2:1-5 (p. 1195); Gospel Text: Matthew 12:33-37 (p. 1039).

**Exodus 32:25-35 (NIV):** Moses saw that the people were running wild and that Aaron had let them get out of control and so become a laughingstock to their enemies. <sup>26</sup>So he stood at the entrance to the camp and said, "Whoever is for the LORD, come to me." And all the Levites rallied to him. <sup>27</sup>Then he said to them, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'Each man strap a sword to his side. Go back and forth through the camp from one end to the other, each killing his brother and friend and neighbor." <sup>28</sup>The Levites did as Moses commanded, and that day about three thousand of the people died. <sup>29</sup>Then Moses said, "You have been set apart to the LORD today, for you were against your own sons and brothers, and he has blessed you this day." <sup>30</sup>The next day Moses said to the people, "You have committed a great sin. But now I will go up to the LORD; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin." <sup>31</sup>So Moses went back to the LORD and said, "Oh, what a great sin these people have committed! They have made themselves gods of gold. <sup>32</sup>But now, please forgive their sim—but if not, then blot the plock of, and my angel will go before you. However, when the time comes for me to punish, I will punish them for their sin." <sup>35</sup>And the LORD struck the people with a plague because of what they did with the calf Aaron had made.

Read **Exodus 32:25-35 (NIV)** above while listening to the sermon, then answer the questions below.

- 1. Read **Exodus 32:25** above. What had Aaron failed to do that had allowed the Israelites to run wild?
- 2. Read **Exodus 32:26** above. What percentage of the Israelites had responded to Moses' plea?
- 3. Read **Exodus 32:27** above. Why didn't Moses' command to the Levites to *kill their brother, friend, and neighbor* violate the 5<sup>th</sup> Commandment?

Pr. Dave compared what the Levites did to a medical procedure. What did he compare it to and why was it vitally important that the Levites obeyed Moses' command?

4. Read Exodus 32:28 above. How many people did the Levites kill?

How many people were there in the Israelite camp?

Why was 3,000 dying preferable to what would have happened if the people's wickedness would have gone unchecked?

5. Read **Exodus 32:29** above. How great would the Levites' love for the Lord have to have been to carry out the assignment they were given?

How did Pr. Dave say the Levites might have felt the Lord's blessing after they carried out Moses' command?

- 6. Read **Exodus 32:30** above. How does this passage help us see Moses' character and integrity?
- 7. Read **Exodus 32:31-32** above. How does **v. 32** show Moses' commitment to these people?
- 8. Read **Exodus 32:33-34** above. God didn't blot Moses out of the book He had written, but who did He promise to blot out of His book?

Does this mean we are doomed to destruction because we all have sinned?

What does God promise because of our disobedience?

- 9. Read **Exodus 32:35** above. What consequence were the Israelites forced to endure because of their wickedness and disobedience?
- 10. What will you remember most about this message?