

The Golden Calf

Exodus 24:12-18; 31:18 - 32:35; 34:1-7, 28-33



The Story

The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to Me on Mt. Sinai and I will give you tablets of stone, and the law and commandments which I have written, that you may teach the people."

So Moses went up to Mt. Sinai and left Aaron in charge of the people. Moses stayed on the mountain 40 days and 40 nights. God spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai, He gave Moses two tablets of stone. God's wrote His commandments on these stones.

The people grew restless waiting for Moses those forty days. They came to Aaron and said, "We do not know if Moses will come back. Make us a god to worship."

Aaron said to them, "Bring me your golden earrings." So all the people brought their gold to Aaron and he made a calf of gold. Aaron also built an altar before it. The people ate and danced before the golden calf.

The LORD said to Moses, "Go, get down! The people are worshipping a golden calf."

Moses prayed for the people and asked God to forgive them their sin of worshipping an idol.

Moses went down from the mountain, and the two tablets of the Testimony were in his hand. In his great anger at seeing the people worshipping the golden calf Moses threw down the tablets and broke them. Then he took the calf which they had made, burned it in the fire, and ground it to powder; and he scattered it on the water and made the children of Israel drink it.

Moses commanded that all those

who still worshiped the golden calf be killed. About three thousand men were killed.

Moses and the people asked God for forgiveness.

The LORD said to Moses, "Come to Me on the mountain with 2 new tablets and I will again write the commandments. Let no man or animal be near the mountain."

Moses did as the LORD said and he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights and the LORD wrote the Ten Commandments.

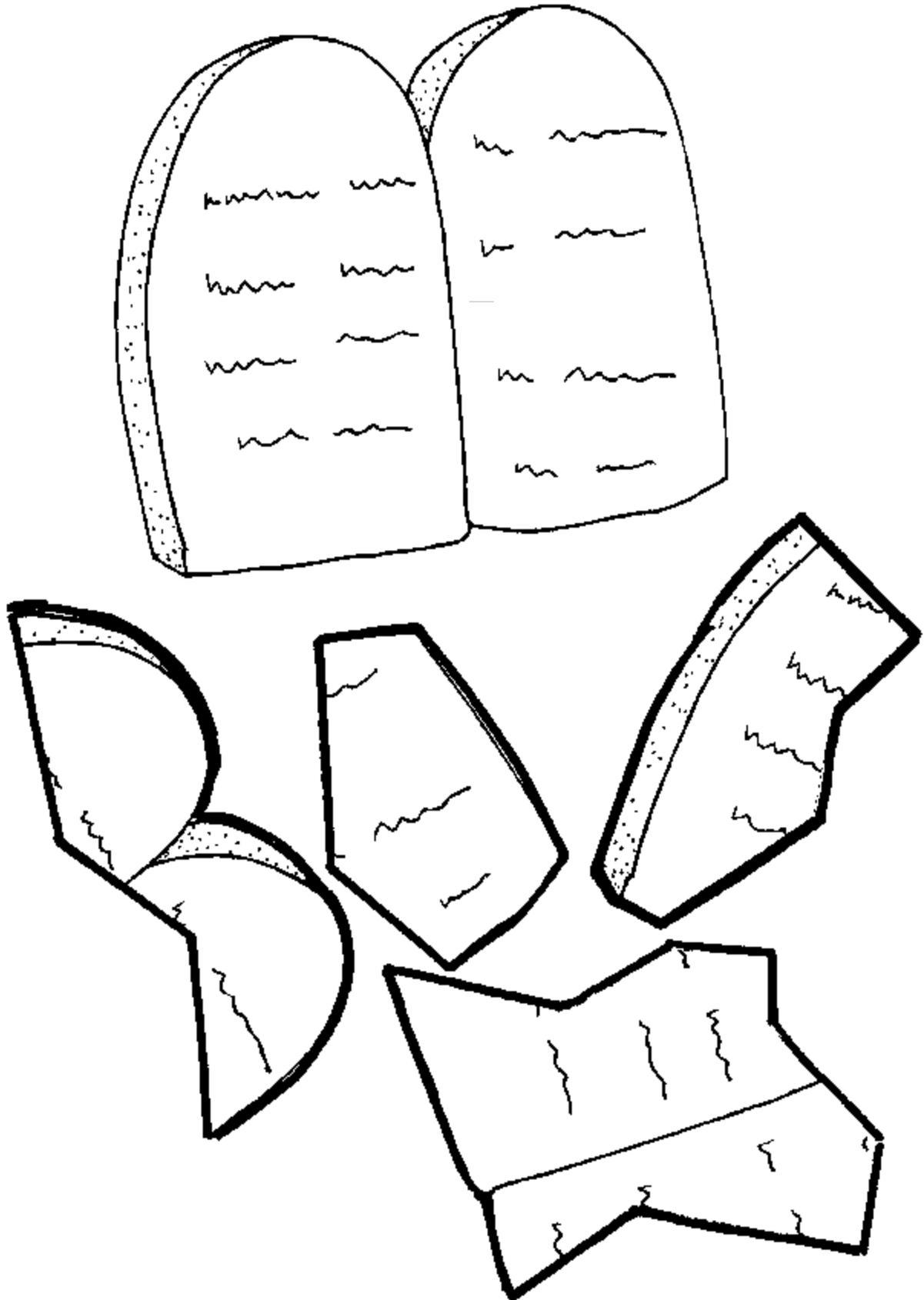
When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the Testimony the skin of his face shone from talking with the LORD. When Aaron and all the children of Israel saw Moses they were afraid to come near him. Then Moses gave them the tablets containing the LORD's Commandments and told them all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai.

When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face.

The Children of Israel committed the sin of idolatry.

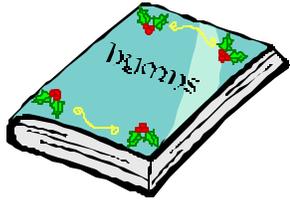
God commands that He be the most important thing in our life.

Activity One - Cut out and glue the broken pieces onto the tablet of stone.



Activity Two - Put an X on those more than God. Circle the things that

things which people could love help us worship God.



Passages

Matthew 4:10 - You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.

The First Commandment
You shall have no other gods.
What does this mean?

We should fear, love and trust in God above all things.

(Sydow Catechism © 2000)

Hymn - TLH 430 v. 8

What is the world to me! My Jesus is my Treasure,
My Life, my Health, my Wealth, my Friend, my Love, my Pleasure,
My Joy, my Crown, my All, my Bliss eternally.
Once more, then, I declare: what is the world to me!

Prayer

Dear Jesus, today we learn about how quickly God's people turned to other gods. Keep anything from becoming more important to us than Jesus and His Word. Thank You for sending Jesus to be our Savior from sin. Amen.