

# Exodus 32:35

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD plagued the people, because they made the calf, which Aaron made.

## Analysis

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The chapter concludes וַיַּגְּבַּע יְהוָה אֶת-הָעֵם (vayigab Yehova et-ha'am, the Lord plagued the people) showing that despite intercession and judgment, additional punishment came. The causative phrase עַל אֲשֶׁר עָשׂוּ אֶת-בָּעֵל אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אַהֲרֹן (al asher asu et-ha'egel asher asah Aharon, because they made the calf which Aaron made) pointedly emphasizes both popular demand and Aaron's culpability—corporate guilt shared by leaders and people. The plague's nature isn't specified, but it represents God's continued displeasure. This shows that even when Moses' intercession averted total destruction, sin still required punishment—foreshadowing Christ who bore the punishment Moses couldn't.

## Historical Context

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This plague was additional to the 3,000 executed (v28). It shows sin's consequences are multi-layered: immediate judgment, leadership consequences, corporate punishment, and future 'visiting' (v34). Only Christ's atonement fully removes sin's curse.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

1. How do you respond when forgiveness doesn't eliminate all consequences?
2. What does the chapter's conclusion teach about sin's pervasive, costly nature and our need for complete atonement in Christ?

## Interlinear Text

וַיַּעֲבֹד	וְיָהּוּ הָאֱלֹהִים	אֱתָן	בְּשֻׁם	עַל	אֲשֶׁר	עַשְׂתָּה	אָתָּה
<b>plagued</b>	<b>And the LORD</b>	H853	<b>the people</b>	H5921	<b>because</b>	<b>made</b>	H853
H5062	H3068		H5971		H834	H6213	
בָּעֵד	אֲשֶׁר	עַשְׂתָּה	אֶת	אֶת	אֶת	עַשְׂתָּה	אֶת
<b>the calf</b>	<b>because</b>	<b>made</b>	<b>Aaron</b>				
H5695	H834	H6213	H175				

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