

Exodus 32:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD said unto Moses, Go, get thee down; for thy people, which thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves:

Analysis

God's command to Moses לֵךְ־רֵד (lech-red, go, get down) is abrupt and urgent. God disassociates from Israel by calling them עַמְּךָ (amcha, 'your people') rather than 'My people,' and emphasizes אֲשֶׁר הֶעֱלִיתָ (asher he'elita, which you brought up) instead of acknowledging His own redemption. The verb שִׁחַתְתָּ (shichet, corrupted themselves) means to ruin utterly, to become depraved—they had destroyed their covenant relationship. The speed of their turning (מִהֲרֹו סָרוּ, miharu saru, quickly turned) reveals the human heart's instability without divine grace.

Historical Context

This occurred while Moses was receiving the law on Sinai. God's immediate knowledge of the sin below emphasizes His omniscience and the impossibility of hiding sin from Him.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does God's 'your people' versus 'My people' reveal the seriousness of corporate sin?
2. What does the speed of Israel's apostasy teach about human nature apart from grace?

Interlinear Text

וַיֹּדֶבֶר	יְהוָה	אֶל	מֹשֶׁה	לֵךְ	יֵד	כִּי
said	And the LORD	H413	unto Moses	H1980	get thee down	H3588
H1696	H3068		H4872		H3381	
שֶׁחַת	עַמֶּךָ	אֲשֶׁר	הָעַל יָדְךָ	מֵאֶרֶץ		
have corrupted	for thy people	H834	which thou broughtest	out of the land		
H7843	H5971		H5927	H776		
מִצְרַיִם:						
of Egypt						
H4714						

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 32:11 (References Lord): And Moses besought the LORD his God, and said, LORD, why doth thy wrath wax hot against thy people, which thou hast brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power, and with a mighty hand?

Deuteronomy 9:12 (References Lord): And the LORD said unto me, Arise, get thee down quickly from hence; for thy people which thou hast brought forth out of Egypt have corrupted themselves; they are quickly turned aside out of the way which I commanded them; they have made them a molten image.

Hosea 9:9 (Parallel theme): They have deeply corrupted themselves, as in the days of Gibeah: therefore he will remember their iniquity, he will visit their sins.

Exodus 19:24 (References Lord): And the LORD said unto him, Away, get thee down, and thou shalt come up, thou, and Aaron with thee: but let not the priests

and the people break through to come up unto the LORD, lest he break forth upon them.

Judges 2:19 (Parallel theme): And it came to pass, when the judge was dead, that they returned, and corrupted themselves more than their fathers, in following other gods to serve them, and to bow down unto them; they ceased not from their own doings, nor from their stubborn way.

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