

The image of God

Exodus 32:1-10



chocolate

chips

cereal



vegetable



#### EXODUS 32:1-10

1 Now when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people assembled around Aaron and said to him, "Come, make us a god who will go before us; for this Moses, the man who brought us up from the land of Egypt—we do not know what happened to him." 2 Aaron said to them, "Tear off the gold rings which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." 3 So all the people tore off the gold rings which were in their ears and brought them to Aaron. 4 Then he took the gold from their hands, and fashioned it with an engraving tool and made it into a cast metal calf; and they said, "This is your god, Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt." 5 Now when Aaron saw this, he built an altar in front of it; and Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a feast to the Lord."

#### EXODUS 32:1-10

6 So the next day they got up early and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and got up to engage in lewd behavior.

7 Then the Lord spoke to Moses, "Go down at once, for your people, whom you brought up from the land of Egypt, have behaved corruptly. 8 They have quickly turned aside from the way which I commanded them. They have made for themselves a cast metal calf, and have worshiped it and have sacrificed to it and said, 'This is your god, Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt!'" 9 Then the Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and behold, they are an obstinate people. 10 So now leave Me alone, that My anger may burn against them and that I may destroy them; and I will make of you a great nation."

#### Mistake #1

They gave too much credit to their messenger (v.1).



## Mistake #2

They tried to turn a living and active God into an impersonal and lifeless object (v. 2-3).



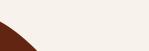
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### Mistake #3

They focused more on their image of God rather than on how God revealed himself (v. 5-6).



# Our human image of God will always be incomplete.



# God is not obligated to fit into our boxes.

## We prevent idolatry by clinging to God's revelation.



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