

Exodus 64 – Choices: With or Without God

Exodus (Names) – Changing the World
Dr. Leon L. Sanders Exodus 33

Choice is Theirs to Lose

- Now therefore, if you will (future) indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be *my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.* (Ex 19:5-6)
- People rejected God's *holiness* when they made the calf and worshiped it as the one who led them from Egypt

Holiness is the Message

God to Moses



God to Hebrews



Who Wanted God's Holiness

God to the Hebrews



Hebrews Did not want to hear God directly
Known as Democracy: Tyranny of Majority

God to Moses Only



Moses wanted & did speak to God directly

Holiness is not Democracy (Ex 1:1-5, 9-10)

- God offered to make them a nation separate from all other peoples so they could teach others about Him
- People rejected God's holiness forfeiting His vision
- Moses, as leader of the people, is now given the same opportunity to define *his* relationship with holy God

God Keeps His Promise to Abram

- God gives Moses the opportunity to go to Canaan with the people, *without* God's presence (rejection of God)
 - He will send an angel (invisible) to help them but His presence will not be manifested to the nations
 - God said His presence would require cleansing of sinners so He would remain distant, preserving them
 - Choice: Following God or Leading themselves

People Saddened by Rejection

- Hebrews displayed an “I’m sorry” upon hearing of God’s rejection of them due to their sin with the idol
 - They removed their idolic jewelry to show their sadness
 - God required them to never wear such decoration again
 - Their sadness does not impress God
 - There is no repentance, a change of heart, and this is demonstrated by their Old Testament history

Parenthesis: Tent of Meeting

- Visible presence of God led the people to Horeb
- Visible presence of God remained with the people until their sin with the idol
- Moses moves his tent out of the encampment as God will not remain with those who rejected Him
- God’s presence now at Moses’ tent outside the camp
(Ex 15:12-15)

Moses Chooses God’s Holiness

- By moving his tent outside the camp Moses made a clear choice to both God and the Hebrews:
 - He could have remained in the camp without a direct relationship to God, like the people
 - He chose to follow God, even if alone, to learn of Him
 - He then, as intercessor, shared his knowledge with them
 - Joshua also chose to follow God’s holiness (leader)

Heart of Exodus: Message to Nations

- God's presence was required if Israel was to be a living message to the nations of God's holiness and mercy
 - Moses desired God's message knowing that Israel would have no greatness without God's presence
 - Moses' choice was for God's glory, not his own
- God would maintain His presence with His people through Moses, their intercessor, before the nations

Moses Asks to See God's Glory

- Moses surrounded by God's Holiness on Mt Horeb
- Moses heard directly from God via pillar of cloud/fire
- Moses asked to see God's glory directly
 - Father cannot be contained by His creation
 - Son is the manifest glory of the Father (JCo 4:34; He 1:140)
 - Moses asked to see what Peter, James and John saw (Mt 17:1-7)

Glorified Christ

- Fleshly man cannot endure God's holy presence directly:
 - Habakkuk said God is too pure to endure evil (Hab 1:130)
 - However, God's message to Moses and nations: Repent and live



God Granted Moses Request

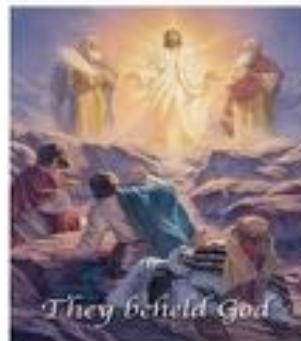
- God will allow Moses to see Him after He passed
 - He will protect Moses from His judging gaze
- He will speak to Moses the Gospel message: (Ex. 9:14-16)
 - His sovereignty of graciousness and mercy as He wills
- The people chose their own glory they did not want to see God's glory - Their glory was their sin (Sinners)

Israel Never Wavered in Rejection

- The Old Testament is the history of Hebrews rejection of God and His message despite His gracious mercy
 - Isaiah declares the graciousness and mercy of God with His people who rejected Him for idols making Him their enemy; i.e., coming under judgment for sin (Is. 7:18)
 - Jeremiah mourns people's rejection of God though He was gracious and merciful; they turned to idols, rejecting Him as their forefathers did in the wilderness (2:1-13)

Moses Did See Christ Face to Face

- Moses (Law) and Elijah (Prophets) beheld Christ in His glory (Mt. 5:12, Lk. 24:44-47)
- The people killed Him (Democracy)
- True Jews followed Him to receive the promise of the New Covenant (Jr. 31:31)



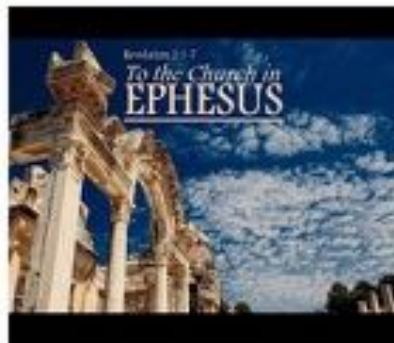
His Church Will Behold His Glory

- Like the apostles we can only dimly see Christ's glory in our flesh (1Co. 13:12)
- We will see Him as John saw Him, in holy glory judging churches (us) by the light of His Word (Re. 1:9,10)



Ephesus Lost Their Love of Christ

- Their faith turned into a religion of works
- Outwardly they took off their idolatrous works
- They began the road into the long darkness of sin moving from Christ



Pergamos Loved the World

- Allowed Gnostic teachers in the church, teaching error for truth (Satanism)
- Pergamos, as the Hebrews, left God and became lost in degradation of sin
- Christ in mercy calls them



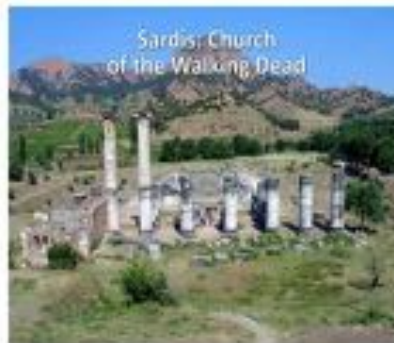
Thyatira Chose False Gospels

- Readapting doctrines to fit the world's truths leads to degradation just as open Gnosticism does
- Practicing a *form* of godliness without God's power leads to destruction (2Ti 3:5-9)



Sardis Not Left for Dead

- Sardis still had a few who followed Christ though the church rejected Him
- Nearly all Hebrews built Golden Calf, essentially dying to God; yet, Moses called forth the few who would follow him for God



Laodicea: Christendom in Denial

- Christendom believes its own delusions of truth
- Christ offered repentance
- Hebrews did not repent
- Christendom will not repent
- Will you fall victim to Satan?

