

LIVING FOR GOD'S GLORY

PROGRAM 7 (#912122)

WEEK 2 (#912326)

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SERIES: Living For God's Glory

TITLE: Program 7 – Exchanging The Glory Of The Incorruptible God!

TUESDAY

OPEN

Do you know what happened to man? Man was created in God's image, and then that image became distorted. And when that image became distorted God moved in order to restore man to the image of the glory of God. What are you doing with God's creation? O Precious One, guard His glory. Give the world a true estimate of Who He is.

PART ONE

Guard His glory. If I guard His glory what I'm doing is, if I'm glorifying God I'm giving a true apprehension of what God is like. I want us to go in our Bibles and this is from the last session, from Psalm 106 to Exodus 32. So this is what I want us to do. I want us to make sure that we're cross-referencing our Bible because Scripture interprets Scripture. So we started off in Jeremiah chapter 2 in our last program. We were looking at what happened when "...[God's] **people...changed their glory for that which does not profit.**" (Jeremiah 2:11) We went from Jeremiah 2 to Psalm 106,

verse 19 through 21. So this is what I want you to do. I want you to open your Bibles, and I trust by now that you've studied with me enough that you know to have a pencil at hand. And you know to have a Bible at hand. And if, in the sovereignty of God you have found this program for the very first time, first of all I want you to know it's in the sovereignty of God. Second, I want you to know that God has a purpose in it and that purpose is not for you to simply hear this one program. But the purpose is God has connected you with us so that you can discover truth for yourself, so that you can go deeper into that truth, so then you can fulfill God's calling on your life which is discipling others, teaching them to observe all the things that God has commanded them. So the whole purpose of this program is to take you and help you know that you know the Word of God. How are we helping you do that? Well if you will go to "preceptsforlife.com," that's "preceptsforlife", just put it all together as one word, "preceptsforlife" you can download a free study guide. And one of the things that we tell you in that free study guide is the importance of letting Scripture interpret Scripture. As a matter of fact the best interpreter of Scripture is Scripture. So what we do is we write in our Bible, next to verses, cross-references. Now if you have a good study Bible like the "[Inductive Study Bible](#)" then what you have is you have cross-references there for the verses, but not always the ones that we want you to go to. So next to verse 19, 20, or 21 of Psalm 106 I want you to write "[Exodus chapter 32, verses 1-8](#)". Then, before we go there I want to read these verses to you in Psalm 106. It's saying "**They...**" this is the children of Israel, "**...made a calf in Horeb....**" (**Psalm 106:19**) Now you say, "Where on earth is Horeb?" Horeb is another name for Mount Sinai. You know Mount Sinai. It's where the children of Israel got the Ten Commandments, where God came down and all that fire, and all that smoke, and all that thunder and scared them to death. (See Exodus 20:1-18) And where He gave them the Ten Commandments, and where they heard them, and they said, ["This is right, and we will do it."] (PARAPHRASE, Exodus

24:3) Well the first of those Ten Commandments was, **“You shall have no other gods [besides] Me.” (Exodus 20:3)** [I’m the LORD. I am a jealous God and you are not to make to yourself any image or any likeness...in the heavens above and the earth beneath or under the earth. You shall not worship them nor bow down to them, because God is a jealous God.] (PARAPHRASE, Exodus 20:4-5) He’s the only real God there is, and you’re to worship God, but they make a calf in Horeb. At the very place where God gave them the commandments they made a calf. They **“...worshiped a molten image. Thus they exchanged their glory for the image of an ox that eats grass.” (Psalm 106:19-20)** They turned from the real true and living God who is the Creator of the heavens and the earth to something that they created with their own hands and it was the image of an ox. And so what you want to do is, you want to mark “glory” if you have not marked it before. We’re putting a purple cloud around it and coloring it yellow. Now when you do that, and you start marking that word throughout your Bible then you begin to understand what God teaches about His glory. So next to that you’re writing “Exodus 32, verses 1 through 8”. So I want you to go back to the second book of the Bible. Exodus is the account of the children of Israel coming out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage where they were slaves under the Egyptians, and then being taken out and taken to Mount Sinai. And there God gives them the commandments by which they are to live. And then He tells them about building the tent of meeting, the tabernacle where His glory, His Shekinah, the cloud by day and the fire by night are going to be in that tent of meeting. Exodus chapter 32, in Exodus chapter 32 Moses is up on Mount Sinai, Mount Horeb. Moses is being instructed by God. The children of Israel get tired of waiting for him. And this is what it says. **“Now when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people assembled about Aaron....” (Exodus 32:1)** Now who is Aaron? Aaron is Moses’ brother, okay. Aaron is the one that God sent to help Moses as Moses stood before Pharaoh because

Moses, ["I, I, I, can't, I can't talk. Here am I, send Aaron."]

(PARAPHRASE, Exodus 4:10,13) And so Aaron came along and went with him. Moses did end up doing the talking. But anyway, and they said to Aaron, "...**'Come, [and] make us a god who will go before us....'**"

(Exodus 32:1) Create us a god who will go before us. "**...For this Moses, the man who brought us up from the land of Egypt, we [don't] know what has become of him.**" And **"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.'" (Exodus 32:1-2) Get all that jewelry.

Now the jewelry that they were gathering, they were slaves in Egypt. Where did that jewelry come from? Well that jewelry came from the Egyptians because God so worked on the Egyptians that when the Israelites, the sons of Israel, the twelve tribes of Israel whose name was Jacob and then changed to Israel, when those children of Israel started to leave Egypt, the Egyptians were so happy that they were taking off their jewels and giving them all these precious things that God would eventually use to make the tabernacle. So Aaron is saying, "OK, take off your earrings and give them to me."

"Then all the people tore off the gold rings which were in their ears and brought them to Aaron. [And] he took this from their hand, and fashioned it with [an engraving] tool and made it into a molten calf...."

(Exodus 32: 3-4) Now watch just I mean, just think now. Think about the process. Just think with me. Get the picture. They're taking off their earrings. They're taking off their jewelry. They're handing it to Aaron.

Aaron is taking that. He melts it down, and then he pours it and makes an image. And then he takes his engraving tool, and puts the eyes into it, and the nose, and the mouth of this calf. And he says to them, **"...**'This is your god....'**"** (Exodus 32:4) Good night. I mean where did their god come

from? Jewelry that was taken from the Egyptians, from a picture of the world, and they are taking what the world can offer them, and they are worshipping what the world, in a sense, their world has given them instead of

the God who delivered them from the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage. Listen to what it says. **“He took this from their hand...fashioned it with a graving tool...made it into a molten calf; and they said ‘This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt.’”**

(Exodus 32:4) This is something they have to carry. **“Now when Aaron saw this...,”** when he saw them doing this, **“...he built an altar before it....”** Before it what? Before it, the cow, it the ox that eats grass. And this ox couldn’t even eat grass because he was just a hunk of jewelry, melted down. **“...And Aaron made a proclamation and said, ‘Tomorrow shall be a feast to the LORD.’ So the next day....”** **(Exodus 32:5-6)** Now watch. It’s syncretism. It’s syncretism. Here’s the jewelry that becomes the calf, and here they have the knowledge of God. And so they take their jewels from the world and their knowledge of God, and it’s syncretism, and they blend it together. They build an altar. They’re not denying the LORD. They’re just changing His glory into this image of this molten calf. **“So the next day they rose early and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat....”** **(Exodus 32:6)** They sat down, and they eat. And then they rise up and they rise and they’re going out to play, just to have a party. Party, party! And it says, **“Then the LORD spoke to Moses....”** **(Exodus 32:7)** Now remember, God and Moses are up on the mountain. But God’s omnipresent. God’s omniscient. He’s all knowing. There is no hiding from Him. And so what did they do? He says, **“...[They] have corrupted themselves.”** **(Exodus 32:7)** This is what happens when we change the glory of God for an image. We corrupt ourselves.

PART TWO

What happens? What happens when we change the glory of God for an image, for something other than God? The Bible tells us we corrupt ourselves. Let’s look at it. I want us to go back to Exodus chapter 32. Just

imagine all those jewels, and imagine this big melt down. And then comes the calf. Well, God has had it. Chapter 32 of Exodus and verse 7, **“Then the LORD spoke to Moses, ‘Go down at once, for your people, whom you brought up from the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves.’”**

(Exodus 32:7) I think that’s worthy of underlining, even if you only want to do it in pencil. “They corrupted themselves.” Do you realize that if you have ended up in alcoholism, if you have ended up in immorality, if you have ended up addicted to drugs it’s because you corrupted yourself? You can’t blame your parents. You can’t blame anybody else because you are the one that did the action with your body. Now you’re gonna want to blame others, but you can’t. They corrupted themselves. You see each of us has the ability to say yes or no. Each of us has the ability to say, to know what is right or wrong because we have the truth of the Word of God. It says, **“‘[They...],’”** God is speaking, verse 8. **“‘They have quickly turned aside from the way which I commanded them. They have made for themselves a molten calf, and have worshiped it and have sacrificed to it and said, ‘This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt!’” The LORD said to Moses....”** Now watch. **“... [I have seen this people]....”** Just imagine Him saying **“... [I have seen this people]...,”** and pushing them out of the way. **“...‘I have seen this people, and behold, they are an obstinate people. Now then let Me alone, that My anger may burn against them and that I may destroy them; and I will make of you a great nation.’” (Exodus 32:8-10)** Hey, that’s quite an offer. [Get out of My way. My anger is red hot. I will just destroy every last one of them. And I will make of you, Moses, a great nation.] (PARAPHRASE Exodus 32:10) Now a lot of us today would take Him up on that. And we would take Him up on that; now think through with me. We would take Him up on that because we desire our glory over God’s glory, because we have lost the fear of God and we fear men and we respect man above respecting God. And man becomes the center of our universe. And the man that’s the center of

this universe or the woman that's the center of this universe is "moi". It's me. It's what I want, what I desire, what I am going to get, or what I think and what I believe and the way that I want to walk. So here is God making Moses an offer, an offer of becoming a great nation. Now let's go back to Exodus chapter 32, verse 11. **"Then Moses entreated the LORD his God, and said, 'O LORD, why does Your anger burn against Your people whom [You've] brought...from the land of Egypt with great power and...a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians speak, saying, 'With evil intent He brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to destroy them from the face of [your] earth'? Turn [away] from Your burning anger...change Your mind about doing harm to Your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, Your servants to whom You swore by Yourself....'"** He said, **"...And said to them, 'I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heavens, and all this land...which I have spoken I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit...forever.'" So the LORD changed His mind about the harm which He...would do to His people."** (Exodus 32:11-14) I just want you to stop and think about that. God made Moses an offer. And Moses turned it down because he wanted people to have a true estimate, a true opinion, a true understanding, a true fear, respect, trust of God. And if God made a covenant, if He swore and that's what the, it means, if He made a covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and He broke it, what would that tell you about God? If God brought them out of the land of Egypt and then He couldn't deliver them and He allowed them all to die in the wilderness what would that say about God? So what is Moses doing? Moses has been tested and Moses is desiring the glory of God over his own glory. Isn't that incredible? Isn't that incredible? He is holding to the true knowledge of God. Now when you think about all this you've got to think Romans chapter 1 and that's where I want you to go. And so next to these verses somewhere in Exodus 32 you need to write **"Romans chapter 1."** Listen to Romans chapter

1. It says in verse 21, talking about all mankind, **“For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile [empty] in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and they exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man...of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.” (Romans 1:21-23)** What is he saying? He’s telling you where idols came from. There’s only been one true God. There is no other God. [There’s no other God, God says in Isaiah, besides Me.] (PARAPHRASE, Isaiah 45:5) But what they have done is they have turned from the true knowledge of God and they have taken the glory of God, of an incorruptible God, and they have exchanged it for the image of something else, of a man, of birds, of beasts, of crawling creatures. You go to India and you see all these worship of other gods. They even have a rat god. And they’re worshipping that instead of the incorruptible God. That’s why there’s a conflict there. And that’s why there’s a lot of killing and persecution of Christians. But the Christians cannot go over to the other side because if they do they will change their glory, the true image of God for an image made like man. O Precious One, what is God’s call on your life? It is to guard His glory. It is to worship God as He is, and not give in or yield to the temptation of the flesh to have your own way, to do your own thing for your own glory. God shares His glory with no man. We’re going to talk about this. You’re going to learn so much. I am so excited. And I can’t wait to have you see it all so you can put it together and constantly the Holy Spirit can say, “Guard His glory. Guard His glory. Guard His glory.”