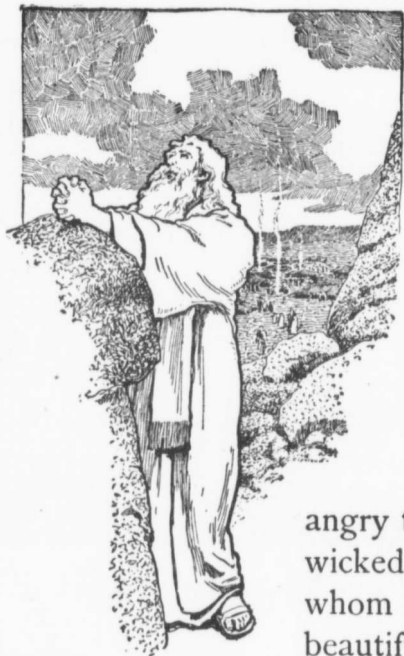


MOSES PRAYING FOR ISRAEL

Exodus 32:1 to 34:9



Moses was on Mount Sinai. He was still listening to the rules God was giving him to teach the people. But suddenly God stopped speaking about the rules and said, "Go, get thee down; for thy people, which thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt have . . . made them a golden calf and have worshipped it."

God was both sorrowful and angry to think his children could be so wicked. They were his chosen people, whom he had promised to lead into a beautiful land which he would give them for their very own. Yet they had forgotten him. They had forgotten how he had set them free from Pharaoh's cruel taskmasters. They had forgotten how he had made a path for them through the Red Sea, how each morning he gave them bread to eat. The children of Israel were indeed very sinful. They had put a wicked idol in God's place, an idol that could not see or talk or think. How foolish they were!

And Moses went down from the mountain and found the Israelites feasting and making merry around the idol. How angry he was, so angry that he threw down the wonderful stone tablets on which God had written the Ten Commandments! Moses broke them to show that the people had