

Worshipping the Golden Calf

for Moses, who had gone to talk with the mighty Jehovah, and who had kept them waiting six weeks for his return.

2. *Aaron's sin*, vs. 2-6. Instead of standing out against the weak and wicked clamor, he preferred to "stand in" with the people. Here is a good opportunity to point out to the scholars the responsibility of leadership. Every boy hopes to be a leader by and by. It is a good ambition; but leaders must train for strength and must be prepared, if need be, to stand alone for the right, against whatsoever opposition. It will be interesting to work out the details—the earrings (which they had got from the Egyptians, Ex. 12:35); the shaping of the wooden block, how silly! into the shape of a calf; the melting and molding of the gold; the building of the altar; the proclamation of the feast; the orgies of the people. All which shows how fast and how far the feet will slide, when they once start on the slippery paths of sin.

3. *Moses to the rescue*. (a) His grief and anger, vs. 19-29; (b) His pleading with God, vs. 11, 13, 30-32 (Compare Paul, Rom. 10:1; 9:3); and the Lord's answer to his prayer—in mercy, but in justice, too, vs. 33-35.

Some Test Questions

How long was Moses in the Mount?
Explain the dissatisfaction of the people.
Why a golden "calf," rather than some other image?

Describe the process of making.
Describe the worship offered.
Recount the scene in the mountain.
Tell of Moses' anger and rebuke. His pleadings with God.
What was God's final reply?

Prove from Scripture

That our own sins need forgiveness.

Topics for Brief Papers

(To be assigned the Sabbath previous.)

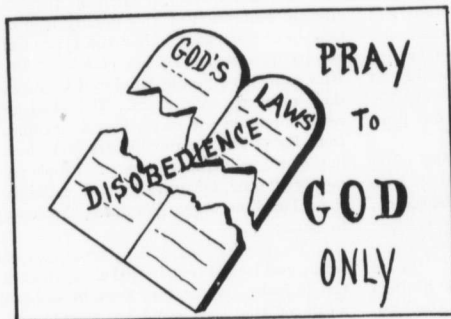
1. The golden calf.
2. Leaders who lead, and leaders who are led.
3. Moses pleading with Jehovah.

The Catechism

Ques. 32. *The blessings of believers*. This is the first of seven questions which deal with the blessings that come to believers. These are divided into three classes, those received in this life, those received at death, and those received at the resurrection. In today's question we have the blessings which belong to this life. The first is "justification," the act of a sovereign in setting free those condemned by the law. The second is "adoption" or reception into the family, of which God is the Father and Jesus Christ the Elder Brother. The third is "sanctification," a work by which we are made holy. Each of these great benefits is a root from which many others spring. The gospel feast is rich and abundant.

FOR TEACHERS OF THE LITTLE ONES

Links—Show again the Commandment Tables, but this time they are broken. Recall the scene on Mt. Sinai when the children of Israel were assembled to listen to God's



Commandments. God called Moses to leave the people and go up into the mountain to speak with Him. Moses' brother Aaron and Hur are left in charge of the people.

Lesson Thought—We should pray to God only.

Introduction—Did Mother ever leave you waiting, while she went into a store or house, telling you to be good till she came back? Did you get very tired waiting and think that "Mother must be lost"? The children of Israel thought,