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# Intercessors Needed

Exodus 32-34

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## Exodus 19:3,5,6,8 NLT

... “Give these instructions to the family of Jacob; announce it to the descendants of Israel: ‘.... Now if you will obey me and keep my covenant, you will be my own special treasure from among all the peoples on earth; .... And you will be my kingdom of priests, my holy nation.’ ...

And all the people responded together, “We will do everything the LORD has commanded.”









## Exodus 32:1-6 NLT

When the people saw how long it was taking Moses to come back down the mountain, they gathered around Aaron. “Come on,” they said, “make us some gods who can lead us. We don’t know what happened to this fellow Moses, who brought us here from the land of Egypt.” So Aaron said, “Take the gold rings from the ears of your wives and sons and daughters, and bring them to me.”







All the people took the gold rings from their ears and brought them to Aaron. Then Aaron took the gold, melted it down, and molded it into the shape of a calf. When the people saw it, they exclaimed, “O Israel, these are the gods who brought you out of the land of Egypt!” Aaron saw how excited the people were, so he built an altar in front of the calf. Then he announced, “Tomorrow will be a festival to the LORD!” The people got up early the next morning to sacrifice burnt offerings and peace offerings. After this, they celebrated with feasting and drinking, and they indulged in pagan revelry.



## Exodus 32:7-10 NLT

The LORD told Moses, “Quick! Go down the mountain! Your people whom you brought from the land of Egypt have corrupted themselves. How quickly they have turned away from the way I commanded them to live! They have melted down gold and made a calf, and they have bowed down and sacrificed to it. They are saying, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you out of the land of Egypt.’”

Then the LORD said, “I have seen how stubborn and rebellious these people are. Now leave me alone so my fierce anger can blaze against them, and I will destroy them. Then I will make you, Moses, into a great nation.”





Five Pretences



Five Petitions



## Exodus 34:11-13 NLT

“O LORD!” he said. “Why are you so angry with your own people whom you brought from the land of Egypt with such great power and such a strong hand? Why let the Egyptians say, ‘Their God rescued them with the evil intention of slaughtering them in the mountains and wiping them from the face of the earth’? Turn away from your fierce anger. Change your mind about this terrible disaster you have threatened against your people! Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. You bound yourself with an oath to them, saying, ‘I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars of heaven. And I will give them all of this land that I have promised to your descendants, and they will possess it forever.’



Exodus 34:14 NLT

So the LORD changed his mind about the terrible disaster he had threatened to bring on his people.





# Two Points

- Your character will be misunderstood
- Your faithfulness will be questioned



“Moses recognized that this (*God’s intent to destroy Israel*) was a sincere threat that could be countered only with appeal to prior words and actions of the same God. **The paradox is that in appealing to God to change, he was actually appealing to God to be consistent** — which may be a significant clue to the dynamic of all genuine intercessory prayer.’

Deuteronomy (Understanding the Bible Commentary Series)" by Christopher J. H. Wright







## Exodus 34:19-21 NLT

When they came near the camp, Moses saw the calf and the dancing, and he burned with anger. He threw the stone tablets to the ground, smashing them at the foot of the mountain. He took the calf they had made and burned it. Then he ground it into powder, threw it into the water, and forced the people to drink it. Finally, he turned to Aaron and demanded, “What did these people do to you to make you bring such terrible sin upon them?”







## Exodus 34:30-32 NIV

The next day Moses said to the people, “You have committed a great sin. But now I will go up to the LORD; perhaps I can make **atonement** (*kaphar*) for your sin.” So Moses went back to the LORD and said, “Oh, what a great sin these people have committed! They have made themselves gods of gold. But now, please **forgive** (*nasa*) their sin—but if not, then blot me out of the book you have written.”



# Day of Atonement Leviticus 16





...please forgive their sin  
—but if not, then blot me out of the book you have written.”

No!







Tent of Meeting



Exodus 33:12a,15-16,13b,14 NLT

One day Moses said to the LORD, “You have been telling me, ‘Take these people up to the Promised Land.’ But you haven’t told me whom you will send with me.

Then Moses said, “If you don’t personally go with us, don’t make us leave this place. How will anyone know that you look favourably on me —on me and on your people—if you don’t go with us? For your presence among us sets your people and me apart from all other people on the earth.”

And remember that this nation is your very own people.”

The LORD replied, “I will personally go with you, Moses, and I will give you rest—everything will be fine for you.”



Exodus 33:12b-13a,17 NLT

You have told me, ‘I know you by name, and I look favourably on you.’ If it is true that you look favourably on me, let me know your ways so I may understand you more fully and continue to enjoy your favour.

The LORD replied to Moses, “I will indeed do what you have asked, for I look favourably on you, and I know you by name.”







“God will show His love to others based on His love or His favour for one.”

Dr. Carissa Quinn  
Bible Project contributor



Exodus 33:18 NLT

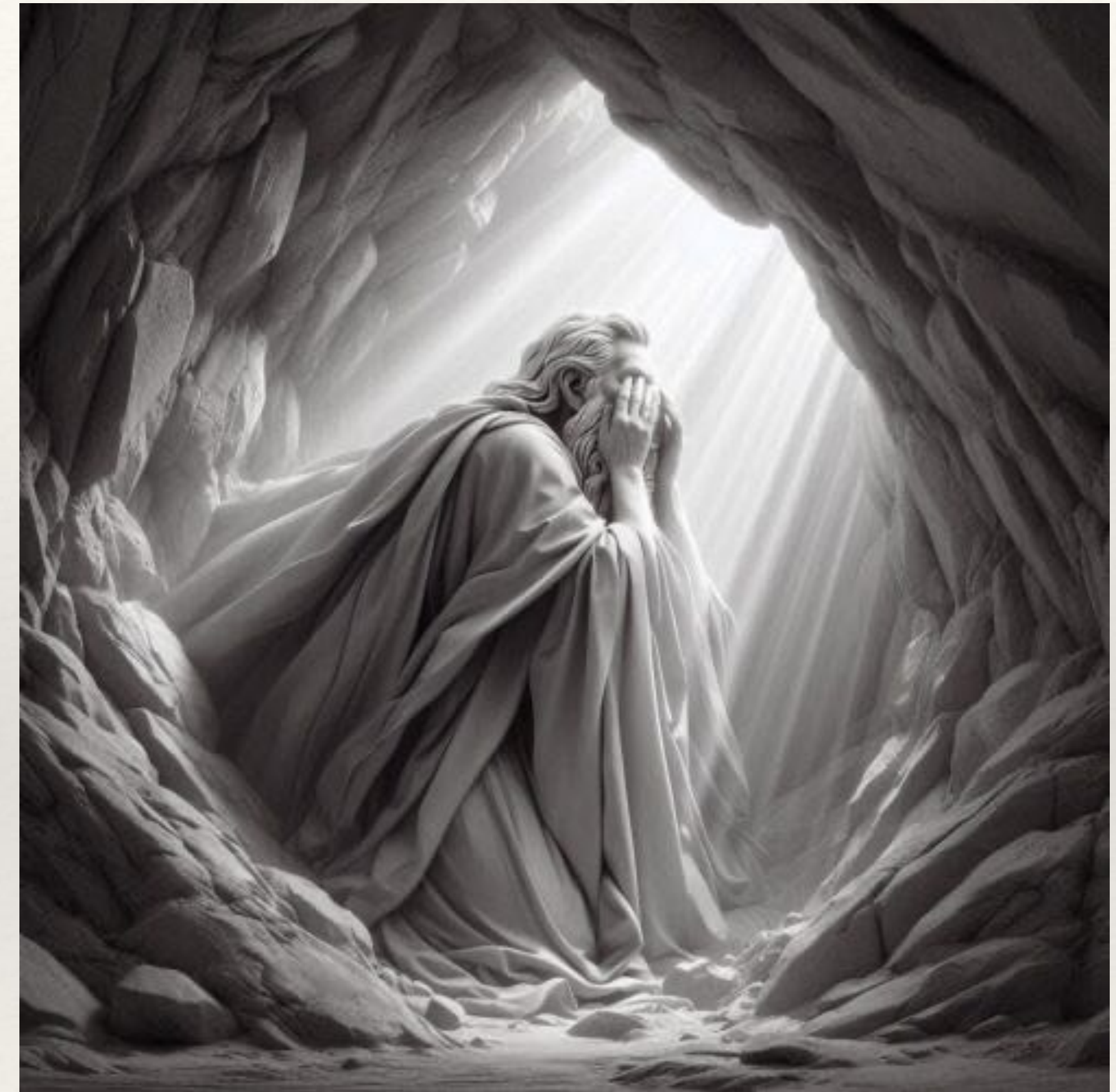
“Then show me your  
glorious presence.”





Exodus 34:6,7 NIV

“The LORD (*Yahweh*), the LORD (*Yahweh*), the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.”





## Exodus 34:9 NLT

“O Lord, if it is true that I have found favour with you, then please travel with us. Yes, this is a stubborn and rebellious people, but please forgive our iniquity and our sins. Claim us as your own special possession.”









# Matthew 17:1-8





# Jesus



- who being God, knows God's thoughts
- who offered His sinless life to cleanse from sins and to carry them away
- who is loved by the Father and with whom the Father is well pleased
- who promises to always be with His people
- who gives the the Holy Spirit to God's people as proof of His ownership

Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—  
is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

Romans 8:34 NIV