

Who Is On The Lord's Side?

Ex.32:26

- Foolishness of Sinners
- What is the Lord's Side?
- Implications
- Advantages

Good morning!

To get a backdrop of the lesson entitled “*Who Is On The Lord’s Side?*”
We’ll have a lengthy reading from [Exodus chapter 32](#).

Moses spent 40 days on the Mount,

- “And **WHEN** the people saw that Moses **DELAYED** to come down **OUT** of the mount, the people **GATHERED** themselves together **UNTO Aaron**, and said unto him, **Up, make us gods**, which shall go before us; for *as for* this Moses, the man that brought us up **OUT** of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.

² And **Aaron said** unto them, **BREAK OFF** the golden earrings, which *are* in the ears of your wives, of your sons, and of your daughters, and **BRING them** unto me.
³ And all the people brake off the golden earrings which *were* in their ears, and brought *them* **unto Aaron**.
⁴ And he **RECEIVED them** at their hand, and **FASHIONED** it with a graving tool, **AFTER**, ...he had made it a molten calf:

and they said, These *be* thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.

⁵ And **WHEN Aaron saw it**, he **BUILT** an altar before it;

and Aaron **MADE proclamation**, and said, To morrow *is* a **FEAST** to the LORD.

⁶ And they rose up early on the morrow, and offered burnt OFFERINGS, and brought peace OFFERINGS; and the people sat down to **EAT**, and to **DRINK**, and rose up to **PLAY**.

⁷ And the LORD said unto Moses, **GO, GET thee DOWN**; for thy people, which thou broughtest **OUT** of the land of Egypt, have **CORRUPTED themselves**:
⁸ they have **TURNED aside**, **QUICKLY**, **OUT** of the **WAY**, which I **COMMANDED** them: they have **MADE** them a molten CALF, and have **WORSHIPPED** it, and have **SACRIFICED** thereunto,

and said, These *be* thy gods, O Israel, which have brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.

⁹ And the LORD said unto Moses, I have **SEEN** this people, and, **BEHOLD**, it *is* a **STIFFNECKED** people:

¹⁰ **NOW** therefore, **LET Me ALONE**, that My **WRATH** may wax **HOT**, **AGAINST** them, and that I may **CONSUME** them: and I will **MAKE** of thee a great NATION.” ([Ex.32:1-10](#))

We’ll skip down and read [Ex.32:15-19](#),

- ¹⁵ And Moses turned, and went down from the mount, and the two tables of the testimony were in his hand: the tables were written on both their sides; on the one side and on the other were they written.
¹⁶ And the tables were the **work of God**, and the writing was the **writing of God**, graven upon the tables.

¹⁷ And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said unto Moses, There is a noise of war in the camp. ¹⁸ And he said, It is not the voice of them that shout for mastery, neither is it the voice of them that cry for being overcome: but the noise of them that **SING** do I hear.

¹⁹ And it came to pass, as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he saw the calf, and the **DANCING**: and Moses’ **ANGER** waxed **HOT**, and he **CAST** the tables **OUT** of his hands, and **BROKE** them beneath the mount.” ([Ex.32:15-19](#))

Some have suggested that the Breaking of the stone tablets, emphasized the people had broken or dissolved the covenant with God.

Now we'll turn to [Exodus 20:1-6](#). Exodus 20:1-6
Prior to the People sinning in idolatry, God gave them clear instruction.

Notice [Ex.20:1-6](#),

- “And God spake all these words, saying, ² I AM the Lord thy God, which have brought thee **OUT** of the land of Egypt, **OUT** of the house of bondage. ³ Thou shalt have **NO** other gods before me.

⁴ Thou shalt **NOT** make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:

⁵ thou shalt **NOT** bow down thyself to them, **NOR** serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a **JEALOUS** God, **VISITING** the iniquity of the fathers, **UPON** the children, **UNTO** the third and fourth generation of them that **HATE** me; ⁶ and shewing **MERCY** unto thousands of them that **LOVE** Me, and **KEEP** My commandments.” ([Ex.20:1-6](#))

Now back to the setting of [Exodus chapter 32](#).

In this setting: A great question (THEN & NOW)

- “Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, **WHO is on the Lord's side?** let him **COME** unto me. And **ALL** the sons of Levi **GATHERED** themselves together **UNTO** him.” ([Ex.32:26](#))

Let's Notice How Israel Demonstrated,

I. The Foolishness of Sinners

A. Who Are Drawn to Wrong Leaders

- “For the time **WILL** come, **WHEN** they will **NOT** endure, **SOUND** doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; ⁴ and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.” ([2Tim.4:3-4](#))

The Israelites

B. Demanded OTHER "gods", THAN Jehovah

- ([Verse 1 of Exodus 32](#))

The Israelites Wanted something they could see
But the Bible says,

- “we walk **BY** faith, **NOT** by sight.” ([2Cor.5:7](#))

Not **BLIND** faith, but

- “**FAITH** (that) cometh **BY** hearing, and **HEARING BY** the **WORD of God**.” ([Rom.10:17](#))

It seems that sinners, desire the spectacular, **NOT** the spiritual things of God.

- Jesus said, “**EXCEPT** ye see signs and wonders, ye will **NOT** believe.” ([Jn.4:48](#))

The Israelites and many sinners are

C. Presumptuous in worship

- They “offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings;” to a golden calf ([Ex.32:6a](#))
- “Samuel said, **HATH** the Lord **AS** great **DELIGHT**, in burnt **OFFERINGS** and **SACRIFICES**, **AS** in **OBEYING** the **VOICE** of the Lord? **BEHOLD**, to obey is **BETTER** than sacrifice, and to **HEARKEN**, than the fat of rams.” ([1Sam.15:22](#))

With the Israelites and many sinners,

D. The Flesh Rules –

- [Ex.32:6b](#) says that “the people sat down to **EAT**, and to **DRINK**, and rose up to **PLAY**.”

The Bible says,

- “the **WORKS** of the **FLESH** are manifest, **which are these**; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and **SUCH LIKE**: of the which I tell you before, **AS** I have also told you in time past, that they which **DO** such things shall **NOT inherit** the kingdom of God.” ([Gal.5:19-21](#))

Paul said,

“I therefore so run, **NOT** as uncertainly (or aimlessly); so fight I, **NOT** as one that beateth the air:
²⁷ but I **KEEP** under my body (that is, strictly discipline his body), and **BRING** it, into **SUBJECTION**: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway (or spiritually disqualified).” ([1Cor.9:26-27](#))

And if we don’t discipline ourselves, as Paul did, we’ll give into the works of the flesh.

With many sinners,

E. The Object of Desire, Becomes the Means of Discipline

- “for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.
²² The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.
²³ **BUT** if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness.
If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!” ([Matt.6:21-23](#))

Regarding the foolishness of Sinners, God said,

- “My people would **NOT** hearken, **TO** My Voice; and Israel would **NONE** of Me.
¹² So I gave them up, unto their **OWN** hearts’ LUST: and they **WALKED** in their **OWN** counsels.” ([Psa.81:11-12](#))

The desire of the Righteous is,

- “As the **HART** panseth **AFTER** the water brooks, so **PANTETH** my soul **AFTER** Thee, O God.
² My soul **THIRSTETH** for God, for the **LIVING** God: **WHEN** shall I come and **APPEAR** before God?” ([Psa.42:1-2](#))

Like the Israelites, Sinners

F. Give Transparent Excuses for Sin

- “And Moses said unto Aaron, What did this people unto thee, that thou hast brought so great a sin upon them?

²² And Aaron said, Let not the anger of my lord wax hot: thou knowest the people, that they are set on mischief.

²³ For they said unto me, Make us gods, which shall go before us: for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.

²⁴ And I said unto them, Whosoever hath any gold, let them break it off. So they gave it me: then I cast it into the fire, and **there came out this calf**.” ([Ex.32:21-24](#)). As if it happened all by itself.

G. A NOTE to US:

God Did Not Allow Sin Against His Majesty, To Remain Unpunished

- “And He said unto them, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, Put every man his sword by his side, and go in and out, from gate to gate, throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbour.
²⁸ And the children of Levi **DID** according to the word of Moses: and there fell of the people that day, **about three thousand men.**” ([Ex.32:27-28](#))
- “For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.” ([Rom.15:4](#))
- “because He hath appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom He hath ordained; whereof He hath given assurance unto all men, in that He hath raised Him from the dead.” ([Acts 17:31](#))

"who is on the lord's side?"

II. WHAT is The Lord's Side?

A. The Side of Pure Holiness

- “Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity.” ([Hab.1:13a](#))
- “I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.” ([Rom.6:19](#))

What is the Lord's Side?

The Side,

B. Of Righteousness

- “O Lord God of Israel, thou art righteous:” ([Ezra 9:15a](#))
- “Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.” ([Rom.6:13](#))

What is the Lord's Side?

The Side,

C. Of Knowledge

- “This then is the message which we have heard of Him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all.” ([1Jn.1:5](#))
- “the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of His calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,” ([Eph 1:18](#))

What is the Lord's Side?

The Side,

D. Of Truth

- "He is the Rock, His Work is Perfect: for all His Ways are Judgment: a God of Truth and without iniquity, Just and Right is He." ([Deut.32:4](#))
- "Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with Truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;" ([Eph.6:14](#))

What is the Lord's Side?

The Side,

E. Of Goodness

- "And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, The Lord, The Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth," ([Ex.34:6](#))
- "And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another." ([Rom.15:14](#))

What is the Lord's Side?

The Side,

F. Of Mercy

- "" (Psa.136:1-26 (26 times!))
- "Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy." ([Matt.5:7](#))

What is The Lord's Side?

G. The Opposite, of The Side of Darkness

- "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." ([Rom.6:23](#))
- "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God." ([Psa.9:17](#))

H. We have to be on ONE side, or the OTHER

- "He that is not with Me is against Me; and he that gathereth not with Me scattereth abroad." ([Matt.12:30](#))

I. The Lost, will ultimately wish they had chosen right

- "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal." ([Matt.25:46](#))

III. What Is Implied By Being On The Lord's Side

A. A complete RENOUNCING of sin

- “teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;” ([Titus 2:12](#))
- “Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.” ([Rom.12:9](#))

What is Implied, by Being on The Lord’s Side?

B. Full and Cheerful Obedience

- “**IF** ye **LOVE** Me, **KEEP** My commandments.” ([Jn.14:15](#))
- “Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him **JESUS**.
³⁶ And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be **BAPTIZED**?

³⁷ And Philip said, **IF** thou **BELIEVEST** with **ALL** thine **HEART**, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I **BELIEVE** that Jesus Christ **IS** the **SON of God**.

³⁸ And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down **BOTH** into the water, **BOTH** Philip and the eunuch; and he **BAPTIZED** him.

³⁹ And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way **REJOICING**.” ([Acts 8:35-39](#))

What is Implied, by Being on The Lord’s Side?

C. Daily open announcement of our conviction

- “Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.” ([Matt.10:32](#))

We’ll Be Well Pleased To Wear His Name, without Shame

- “If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory, and of God **RESTETH** upon you: on their part He is evil spoken of, but on your part He is glorified.
¹⁵ But let none of you suffer **AS** a murderer, or **AS** a thief, or **AS** an evildoer, or **AS** a busybody in other men’s matters.
¹⁶ Yet **IF** any man suffer **AS** a Christian, let him **NOT** be ashamed; but let him **GLORIFY** God on this behalf.” ([1Pet.4:14-16](#))

We’ll be Ready and Willing, to Defend His truth against attack

- “...knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel.” (Paul said in [Phil.1:17](#))
- “...let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may **HEAR** of your affairs, that ye **STAND FAST** in **ONE** spirit, with **ONE** mind, striving **TOGETHER** for the **FAITH** of the gospel;” ([Phil.1:27](#))

**If we'll have Daily Open Announcement of our convictions,
We'll Confess Him regardless of cost**

- “Be **NOT** thou therefore **ASHAMED** of the testimony of our Lord, **NOR** of me his prisoner: but be thou **PARTAKER** of the afflictions of the gospel, according to the **POWER** of God;” ([2Tim.1:8](#))
- “For the which cause I also **SUFFER** these things: nevertheless I am **NOT** ashamed: for I **KNOW** whom I have **BELIEVED**, and am **PERSUADED**, that He is **ABLE**, to **KEEP** that, which I have **COMMITTED**, unto Him against that day.” ([2Tim.1:12](#))

Earthly ties, are not to be permitted to stand between us, and duty to our Master

- A “disciple(s) said unto him, Lord, suffer me **FIRST** to go and bury my father.
²² But Jesus said unto him, Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead.” ([Matt.8:21-22](#))
(that is, let the spiritual **DEAD**, bury the physical **DEAD**)
- “He that **LOVETH** father or mother **MORE** than me, is **NOT** worthy of Me: and he that **LOVETH** son or daughter **MORE** than me, is **NOT** worthy of Me.” ([Matt.10:37](#))

What is Implied, by Being on The Lord's Side?

D. Consecration of ALL, to His Honor, and to His Glory

- “For to me to live *is* Christ, and to die *is* gain.” ([Phil.1:21a](#))

What is Implied, by Being on The Lord's Side?

Consecration of Our **ABILITIES**

- “I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here *am* I; send me.” ([Isa.6:8](#))

What is Implied, by Being on The Lord's Side?

Consecration of Our **INFLUENCE**

- “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.” ([Matt.5:16](#))

What is Implied, by Being on The Lord's Side?

And Consecration of Our **DEVOTION**

- “Bless the Lord, O my soul:
and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
² Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all His benefits:” ([Psa.103:1-2](#))

What is Implied, by Being on The Lord's Side?

E. In Short, A Daily Life of Faithfulness

- “Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye **DO**, do **ALL** to the **GLORY** of God.” ([1Cor.10:31](#))

IV. Advantages of Being on the Lord's Side

A. It is the Honorable side of Right and Truth

- “Righteousness exalteth a nation:
but sin is a reproach to any people.” ([Prov.14:34](#))

Advantages of Being on the Lord’s Side?

B. It is the Safe Side

- “but when the fulness of the time was come,
God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,
⁵ to redeem them that were under the law,
that we might receive the adoption of sons.” ([Gal.4:4-5](#))
- Peter said, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you
in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins,
and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.” ([Acts 2:38](#))
- “For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness,
and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.” ([Heb.8:12](#))
- “to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away,
reserved in heaven for you,” ([1Pet.1:4](#))

Advantages of Being on the Lord’s Side?

C. It is the Calm and Happy Side

- “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all. Amen.” ([2Cor.13:14](#))
- “whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see Him not,
yet believing, ye rejoice with joy, unspeakable and full of glory:” ([1Pet.1:8](#))

Advantages of Being on the Lord’s Side?

D. It is the Useful Side

- “Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you,
do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.” ([Matt.7:12](#))
- “And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses,
the same commit thou to faithful men,
who shall be able to teach others also.” ([2Tim.2:2](#))

IN-CONCLUSION:

Congratulations to those on the Lord's side

- “let us not be weary in well doing:
for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.” ([Gal.6:9](#))

To those who have yet to hearken unto the Lord,

- “the Spirit and the bride say, Come.
And let him that heareth say, Come.
And let him that is athirst come.
And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.” ([Rev.22:17](#))

If you have a spiritual NEED, won't you COME,

- **Believing** ([Jn.8:24](#); [Heb.11:6](#)),
- **Repenting** ([Lk.13:3](#); [Acts 17:30](#); [2Pet.3:9](#); [1Jn.1:9](#); [Jn.8:11](#)),
- **Confessing** ([Acts 8:37](#); [Matt.10:32-33](#); [Rom.10:9-10](#)),
- Be **Baptized** INTO Christ ([Gal.3:26-27](#); [Rom.6:3-5](#); [Mk.16:16](#); [1Pet.3:21](#); [Acts 22:16](#))
...Where **ALL** “spiritual blessings” exist ([Eph.1:3](#))
- And Remain **Faithful** ([Rev.2:10](#)), or **Endure** until the end ([Matt.24:13](#))?

Please COME, as together we stand and sing!

Source: Sermon Outline by Derrel Shaw
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