**Survey of Old Testament**

**The Golden Calf - Exodus 32-34**

1. During Moses’ delay with God upon the mountain, the people came to Aaron and demanded, “make us gods.” Aaron seemingly consented, telling the people to break off their golden earrings and “bring them unto me.” He had no backbone to stand against this idolatry, but instead he became their leader!
2. Aaron received the gold, fashioned it into a molten calf, and announced “these be thy gods, O Israel.”  Aaron further built an altar before the calf and proclaimed a feast day. They offered sacrifices and sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.
3. God announced to Moses, “thy people have corrupted themselves.” Israel is viewed here as Moses’ responsibility since he was the mediator of the covenant. God calls Israel a stiffnecked people. God next suggested the elimination of Israel and promised Moses “I will make of thee a great nation”. This was a real test of Moses’ character. Moses earnestly intercedes with God on their behalf. Psalms‬
4. In anger Moses smashed the tablets of the Law, symbolizing the people’s breaking of the covenant. Second, he burned the idol, reduced it to powder, spread it on water and made the people drink it. Drinking it symbolized that the people had to bear the consequences of their sin. Third, Moses summoned Aaron to give an account. Aaron’s excuse was “I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf.“ Aaron, however, had actually shaped the idol himself.
5. Moses intercedes for Israel for God to forgive their sin “but if not, erase my name from the book.” But the Lord replied to Moses, “No, I will erase the name of everyone who has sinned against me. Then God tells Moses that “an angel will lead you” but Moses continues to intercede for God to lead them or they will not go.
6. God agrees to lead them and tells Moses to come back on the Mountain where He gives him the tables of stone again with the Ten Commandments. Moses is there another forty days and nights.
7. The Lord would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend.
8. Moses’ face glowed from being in the presence of God. The people were afraid and backed away.

**The construction of the tabernacle Exodus 35–40**

1. Moses assembles the congregation to deliver to them the commandments of God. These include: Directions concerning the Sabbath; freewill offerings of gold, silver, brass for the tabernacle; the tabernacle and its tent; and all the people offered willingly.
2. (Exodus 34:20) No one may appear before me without an offering.
3. (Exodus‬
4. These were freewill offerings, not their tithes.
5. Moses was commanded to set up the tabernacle, the first day of the first month of the second year of their departure from Egypt. The cloud covered the tent, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle, so that even Moses was not able to enter. When they were to journey, the cloud was taken up; when to encamp, the cloud rested on the tabernacle. A cloud by day and a fire by night was upon the tabernacle, in the sight of all the Israelites, through the whole course of their journeyings.

**The Book of Leviticus**

**The laws concerning sacrifices Leviticus 1-7**

1. The Book of Leviticus was the first book studied by a Jewish child; yet is often among the last books of the Bible to be studied by a Christian. However, a book referred to about 40 times in the New Testament should be of great significance to every Christian. The book of Leviticus presents an obvious change, theologically, from that encountered in the book of Exodus. Exodus portrays God’s approach to a helpless Israel in Egyptian bondage, while Leviticus presents Israel’s approach to God through His ordered sacrifices, the priesthood, etc. The material found in Leviticus is divinely intended to picture, in many ways, aspects of the believer’s salvation today. (Hebrews 9:23) refers to certain Levitical practices as, “patterns of things in the heavens,” and (Hebrews 10:1) speaks of the Mosiac ritual as “having a shadow of good things to come”. It must, therefore, be our intention in Leviticus to see, not only what God commanded the Israelites to observe, but also how their sacrifices and other practices speak of the person and work of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
2. The **sweet savor offerings** (Leviticus 1:2, 9) were voluntary and were offered to God out of appreciation for what He had done for the individual. The animals had to be selected from the herd, that is, from cattle and oxen, or from the flock, that is, from sheep and goats. Wild animals could not be used since they already belonged to God (Psalm 50:10). What was offered must be the property of the offerer and, hence cost him something (2 Samuel 24:24).
3. The five sacrifices described in the first of the book of Leviticus are the burnt offering, grain offering, fellowship offering, sin offering, and guilt offerings.