

SERMON OUTLINE – SEPTEMBER 16, 2018

# “Two Sides of One Coin”

*(Exodus 32:1-14)*

**INTRODUCTION:** *The definition of “paradox” & the meaning of “2 sides of one coin”*

## I. TODAY’S EXODUS 32 TEXT IS QUITE THE 2 SIDED COIN

- A. Here we see God “repenting”, changing His mind
- B. The key verses are verses 7, 10 & 14
- C. The context is God’s anger over the people of Israel making the golden calf

## II. SOME 2 SIDED COINS ARE QUITE AMAZING

- A. After deliverance from Egypt, the people forsake God & make a golden idol
- B. God’ anger burns & He is willing to forsake Israel, but bless Moses (v.10)
- C. Moses will not receive the blessing; instead he intercedes for Israel (vv. 11-13)
  - 1. He appeals to God’s reasonableness (v.11)
  - 2. He appeals to God’s reputation (v.12)
  - 3. He reminds God of His own promise (v.13)



## III. THE WONDER OF THIS 2 SIDED COIN IS SHOWN IN THE EXTENT OF GOD’S ANGER & THE INTENSITY OF MOSES’ INTERCESSION

- A. Deuteronomy 9:25 tells us Moses lay on his face 40 days & nights pleading
- B. Today’s Exodus text (v.14) says God then changed His mind!
- C. The God Who does not change, did change!
- D. Here’s the divine paradox: He does not give us what we deserve... this reveals to us what it is about God that does NOT change: His love for sinners is stronger than His hatred of sin
- E. Here’s the divine paradox: His precious Word of Law & Gospel
- F. We see this paradox in:
  - 1. Our faith shared
  - 2. The Word proclaimed
  - 3. The Sacraments of Baptism & Communion
- G. And – the clearest paradox: The cross of our Lord Jesus – wrath & mercy at the same time (Isaiah 53:12)

**CONCLUSION:** *We are people of the paradox... God’s 2 sided coin!*