

PLEASE NOTE - The references below are taken from the 86-20 Index. Many verses have additional references that have not been included due to time & space. We are encouraged to do additional personal research.

(Exodus 31:6) 6 Moreover, to assist him I have appointed O·ho'li·ab the son of A·his'a·mach of the tribe of Dan, and I am putting wisdom into the heart of all those who are skillful, so that they may make everything I have commanded you:

*** it-2 p. 1021 Spirit ***

The spirit has qualifying force or capacity; it can qualify persons for a work or for an office. Though Bezalel and Oholiab may have had knowledge of crafts before their appointment in connection with the making of the tabernacle equipment and priestly garments, God's spirit 'filled them with wisdom, understanding, and knowledge' so that the work could be done in the way purposed. It heightened whatever natural abilities and acquired knowledge they already had, and it enabled them to teach others. (Ex 31:1-11)

(Exodus 31:18) 18 Now as soon as he had finished speaking with him on Mount Si'nai, he gave Moses two tablets of the Testimony, tablets of stone written on by God's finger.

*** si p. 10 par. 20 "All Scripture Is Inspired of God and Beneficial" ***

20 In harmony with these uses of the word "finger," it can be appreciated that "God's finger" has great power and that this designation well applies to his spirit as he used it in the writing of the Bible. So the Scriptures inform us that by means of "God's finger," he wrote the Ten Commandments on the two tablets of stone.

*** it-1 p. 1228 Israel ***

Within three months after Israel left Egypt it became an independent nation under the Law covenant inaugurated at Mount Sinai. (Heb 9:19, 20)

The Ten Words, or Ten Commandments, written "by God's finger" formed the framework of that national code, to which some 600 other laws, statutes, regulations, and judicial decisions were added. This made it the most comprehensive set of laws possessed by any ancient nation, spelling out as it did in great detail the relationship between man and God, as well as between man and his fellowmen.—Ex 31:18; 34:27, 28.

(Exodus 32:1-6) Meanwhile, the people saw that Moses was taking a long time coming down from the mountain. So the people gathered around Aaron and said to him: "Get up, make for us a god who will go ahead of us, because we do not know what has happened to this Moses, the man who led us up out of the land of Egypt." 2 At this Aaron said to them: "Take the gold earrings from the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters and bring them to me." 3 So all the people began taking off the gold earrings that were in their ears and bringing them to Aaron. 4 Then he took the gold from them, and he formed it with an engraving tool and made it into a statue of a calf. They began to say: "This is your God, O Israel, who led you up out of the land of Egypt." 5 When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it. Then Aaron called out: "There is a festival to Jehovah tomorrow." 6 So they got up early on the next day and began offering up burnt offerings and presenting communion sacrifices. After that the people sat down to eat and drink. Then they got up to have a good time.

(Exodus 32:10) So now let me be, and I will exterminate them in my burning anger, and let me make a great nation from you instead."

(Exodus 32:28) The Levites did what Moses said. So about 3,000 men were killed on that day.

*** lvs chap. 13 pp. 172-173 par. 2 Do All Celebrations Please God? ***

2 How does Satan try to mislead us? One way is by confusing us about what is right and what is wrong. Notice what happened to the nation of Israel when they were camped near Mount Sinai. Moses had gone up the mountain, and the people were waiting for him to return to the camp. Eventually, they got tired of waiting and asked Aaron to make a god for them. He made a golden idol in the shape of a calf. Then the people had a festival. They danced around the calf and bowed down to it. They believed that by bowing down to the calf, they were actually worshipping Jehovah. But the fact that the people viewed this event as “a festival to Jehovah” did not make it right. Jehovah viewed it as idolatry, and many of them died. (Exodus 32:1-6, 10, 28) What is the lesson for us? Don’t let yourself be fooled. “Touch nothing unclean,” and let Jehovah teach you what is right and what is wrong.—Isaiah 52:11; Ezekiel 44:23; Galatians 5:9.

* w10 10/15 pp. 5-6 pars. 13-15 “Who Has Come to Know the Mind of Jehovah?” ***

For example, consider Jehovah’s words to Moses after the Israelites had made a golden calf to worship. God said: “I have looked at this people and here it is a stiff-necked people. So now let me be, that my anger may blaze against them and I may exterminate them, and let me make you into a great nation.”—Ex. 32:9, 10.

14 The account goes on to say: “Moses proceeded to soften the face of Jehovah his God and to say: ‘Why, O Jehovah, should your anger blaze against your people whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a strong hand? Why should the Egyptians say, “With evil intent he brought them out in order to kill them among the mountains and to exterminate them from the surface of the ground”? Turn from your burning anger and feel regret over the evil against your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac and Israel your servants, to whom you swore by yourself, in that you said to them, “I shall multiply your seed like the stars of the

heavens, and all this land that I have designated I shall give to your seed, that they may indeed take possession of it to time indefinite.” And Jehovah began to feel regret over the evil that he had spoken of doing to his people.”—Ex. 32:11-14.

15 Did Moses really need to correct Jehovah’s thinking? By no means! Although Jehovah expressed what he was inclined to do, this was not his final judgment. In effect, Jehovah was here testing Moses, just as Jesus later did Philip and the Greek woman. Moses was given an opportunity to express his view. Jehovah had appointed Moses as mediator between Israel and Himself, and Jehovah respected His appointment of Moses to that role. Would Moses succumb to frustration? Would he take this opportunity to encourage Jehovah to forget about Israel and to make a mighty nation from Moses’ own descendants?

*** w10 10/15 “Who Has Come to Know the Mind of Jehovah?” ***

According to some scholars, the Hebrew idiom rendered “let me be” at Exodus 32:10 could be taken as an invitation, a suggestion that Moses would be allowed to intercede, or ‘stand in the gap,’ between Jehovah and the nation. (Ps. 106:23; Ezek. 22:30) Be that as it may, Moses obviously felt comfortable expressing his opinion freely to Jehovah.