Thursday 29 April 2021

Ex.32,11.12: "Moses sought the favour of the LORD his God. 'Lord', he said, '... turn from your fierce anger; relent and do not bring disaster on your people.'"

1Jn.2,1: "But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father – Jesus Christ, the Righteous One."

Moses stood in before God for the people of Israel who had fashioned a golden calf and said, 'This is your god, Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt.' In his mediation for them Moses acknowledges and asserts what Israel had denied and cast aside, had ascribed to a creation of their own making — who God is, his being the LORD, their God.

God's fierce anger at Israel's violation of the 1st commandment makes clear what Israel's choice truly meant (and what all idolatry truly means!): To live at cross-purposes with the way that leads to life and freedom.

Moses' mediation for Israel worked because in seeking God's favour he acknowledged who God was. In doing so he was a type of the true mediator of God through whose mediation the people would not just be spared, but would be changed – from living at cross-purposes with God to knowing Him.

"For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus." (1Tim.2,5)