



June 23, 2008

## Thought For the Day

***Then Moses said to him, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here."***

Exodus 33:15

As Moses came down from Mt. Sinai after receiving the 10 Commandments, he found the people worshipping the golden calf. He destroyed the tablets containing the commandments by throwing them down the mountain. By doing so he demonstrated that the covenant between them and God had been broken by their behavior. Judgment was then brought upon the people. The people realized their sin and Moses said he would again go into God's presence and seek God's forgiveness for the people. While meeting with God, God told Moses to proceed to lead the people toward the land of promise. God said he would send an angel before them to drive out the peoples that were in the way. But, God said that He himself would not go with them because he knew the people were stiff-necked and He might destroy them along the way for their continued disobedience.

Moses then interceded with God, and in the process made the above request: *"If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here."* Moses was expressing his conviction that without the presence of God, it would not be good to move forward. He knew that only God would be able to be all the help they needed in the future and without him there would only be problems.

What had God shown him that caused him to believe this? Over the next couple of days we will look at why Moses had this conviction. But for now consider just his statement. Is that not an awesome prayer for each of us? Would we not be wise to make that a prayer for the start of every day? How much better might our lives be if we sought God's presence as we entered into each day, each week, or each new opportunity before us?

Christ has promised to be with us always until the end of the age. We can do no better than to make sure we are moving forward on the path he most wants us to travel.

*I will seek your promised presence and walk with you today. Help my faith if I begin to waver.*