

- I. Jesus continues to do what Moses did
  - A. Jesus comes, like Moses, from meeting God on the mountain.
  - B. Jesus comes, like Moses, angry at His unfaithful people. (Exodus 32; Deuteronomy 32)
- II. Jesus teaches His flunking students
  - A. Jesus makes it clear to them that His own road lies through arrest and death.
  - B. The Twelve immediately begin arguing over who among them is greatest!
  - C. They then turn around and start trying to boss around others who are ministering in Jesus' name.
- III. An anatomy of failure: what is happening here?
  - A. The Twelve are failing as leaders because they lack humility.
    - i. they aren't humble toward those they are supposed to serve
    - ii. they aren't humble toward others doing similar work
    - iii. they aren't humble toward one another
    - iv. they aren't humble, ultimately, toward Jesus or toward God the Father
  - B. Jesus' response:
    - i. when church leaders are not working for the benefit and blessing of those in their care, they are betraying God (this can happen maliciously or negligently)
    - ii. when church leaders spend much of their time and effort tearing down other churches, they are breaking faith with God
    - iii. when church leaders fight with one another for supremacy, they are ignoring Jesus
    - iv. when church leaders are proud, they reject the one they claim to serve
- IV. Jesus' call to practical, humble faith
  - A. Jesus' actions and words
  - B. Lead humbly
  - C. Keep the church in perspective.
  - D. We are to receive the least in Jesus' name: by so doing we receive Jesus; by receiving Jesus, we receive God.
  - E. True power comes through humility. Humility comes by placing others first.
  - F. Jesus humbled Himself to save prideful, weak people