

thus broke God's commandment in the second table. From there it was a short step to the worship of other gods.

(4) Having turned to the worship of false gods, it was only another short step to their presumptuous speaking against the true God.

(5) Having taken the previous steps, it was almost inevitable that when they faced opposition and danger to their lives, the Israelites would reach a stage in their departure from the true God at which they felt that it was not worth it, wanted to give it all up, and wanted to return to Egypt!

Now I admit that this may not be the precise line of thought that explains Paul's arrangement of the biblical events. But some such order, in which one idea suggests another, is a method Paul used often, and may be the rationale for the sequence he chose.

In any case, by means of these varied expressions of dissatisfaction with God, the Israelites departed from vital faith and trust in the true and living God, and moved toward idolatry.

To put it briefly, THEY WERE DISSATISFIED WITH GOD!

I wonder . . . are we as believers ever dissatisfied with God – dissatisfied with God's character (who and what He is), God's Word (what He teaches us in the