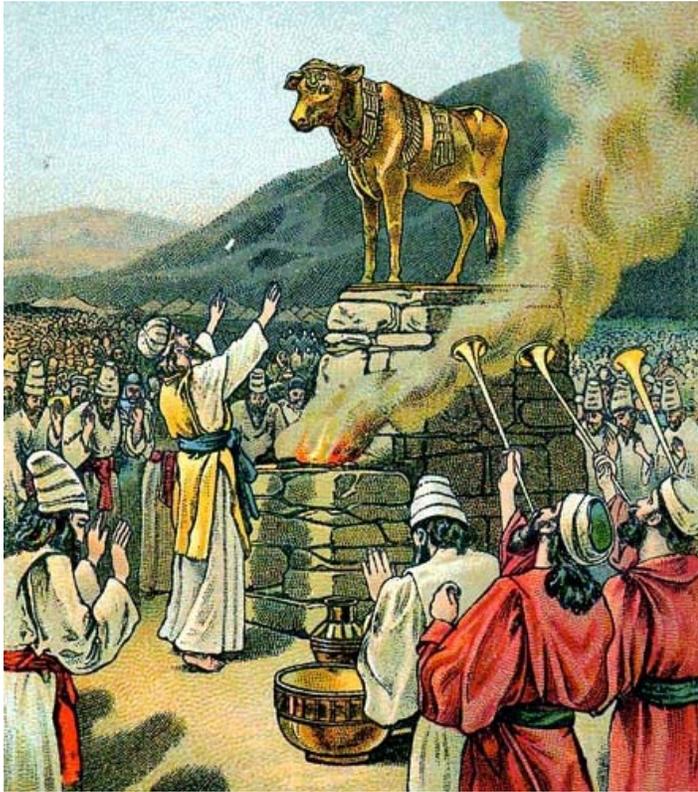


# THE GOLDEN CALF..POCKET IDOLS (Exod. 32:4-5)

## A MOSES TYPE CONNECTION

**Exod. 32:4-5** *“And he took {this} from their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, and made it into a molten calf; and they said, “This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt.” 5 Now when Aaron saw {this,} he built an altar before it; and Aaron made a proclamation and said,*



*“Tomorrow {shall be} a feast to the LORD.”* Moses was a type of Yeshua, he was mediating on behalf of Israel and their Creator, Yahveh. When the Israelites made their golden calf image it was because they thought they had lost Moses (their mediator), because he was gone so long. For this reason they asked Aaron to make them a golden calf mediator. They said make us an Elohim. They wanted to worship Yah but they were afraid because they had lost their mediator. Their hearts were in the right place, but they did what they were used to doing all their lives. They wanted a pocket idol so to speak. Notice it was a calf (miniature image), not a full grown cow that was their image. They were not turning their back on Yah, they just wanted an intermediary to represent Him.

They honestly thought they were doing the right thing. From Yah's perspective they were serving Him in an incorrect manner by doing so. It was in His mind considered idolatry. They were not doing an approved form of worship.

## POCKET IDOLS

In order to understand exactly what happened when the people made the Golden Calf idol at Mt. Sinai, we need to understand about what was called "pocket idols", or "miniature gods". **Gen. 32:4** *“And he took {this} from their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, and made it into a molten calf; and they said, “This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt.”* Make note here that the "god" in verse four of Gen. 32:4-5 in regard to the golden calf idol, is spelled with a small g.



In days of old, every little village, town or even city, had a main god or goddess the people there worshipped and gave honor to. These Greek and Roman gods we see spoken of throughout the bible. The following is one example. **Acts 19:34-35** *But when they knew that he was a Jew, all with one voice about the space of two hours cried out, **Great is Diana of the Ephesians.** 35 And when the townclerk had appeased the people, he said,*

*Ye men of Ephesus, what man is there that knoweth not how that the city of the*



***Ephesians is a worshipper of the great goddess Diana, and of the image which fell down from Jupiter?*** When people travelled from one area to another they always acknowledged the god of that area as they passed through, by praying to their pocket idol. They thought their pocket idol would mediate for them as they passed through the various places and appease the local gods. This was one of the basic reasons they had them. Most of the idols in ancient times were small. People took them everywhere with

them. They did this because they believed you could never be in the presence of a god without being killed, so they had these mediators (idols) with them all the time. They believed the power of what-ever god they were in the presence of would encase itself in the pocket idol and he would allow them to be in his presence. They would bow down or pay tribute to the local gods, because they were afraid of them, but they understood as long as they had their tiny idols to mediate between the gods they were safe. In other-wards their small idol represented the god they were in the presence of.

In scripture we see this same pocket idol type idea in that Yeshua is considered the mediator between the the Holy One of Israel and mankind. Many people hang or attach crosses or various pendants (supposedly representing various saints who will protect them at certain times of the year), on themselves without even realizing they are idol worshipers. They are doing exactly the same as the pagan worshipers of old. The Roman Catholics are terrible for this practice. They wear these idols (jewelry) as mediators between their Saints, whom they claim mediate for the God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob, and the god they actually serve.

An example of these miniature idols is found in the story of Rachel when she left Laban her father and followed her husband Jacob. Rachel took idols that her father had so that when they journeyed into the foreign lands they would be protected. **Gen. 31:19** *And Laban went to shear his sheep: and Rachel had stolen the images that were her father's.* **Gen. 35:2** *Then Jacob said unto his household, and to all that were with him, Put away the strange gods that are among you, and be clean, and change your garments:"* Here we see Jacob telling those who went with him to not have any of their gods with them, but Rachel did not obey.

### **Pharaoh owned the Egyptian people**

In Egypt the people were owned. As you may recall, there was a terrible famine in the land of Egypt, and because of it all the people of the nation almost starved to death. Under Joseph's advice, the Pharaoh stepped in and saved the people from starvation. In the process of doing so, the people literally sold themselves to the Pharaoh as slaves. They owed him their lives. The story of Joseph shares with us the fact that all the people in Egypt had sold themselves to the Pharaoh for life just so they could stay alive. They dressed like Egyptians, they ate like Egyptians, everything they did was like the Egyptians. This included their ways of worshipping various gods.

As it turned out, Aaron was doing something he thought was very significant when he tells all the people to take off their earrings and bring them to be melted and moulded. Remember when they left Egypt they were given all the gold and silver in the land. Now they took the ear-rings which were a symbol of ownership, and made them into a miniature idol. Aaron was symbolically having them break their ownership to Pharaoh by tearing out their earrings. They were tearing down their previous ownership to Egypt by tearing out their earrings. Aaron was having them give up their connection to Egypt and offer up a Feast to their new God, the one who had taken them from slavery to freedom in the wilderness. Aaron their great High Priest did this. He was a very anointed man, yet he got caught up in this error. He made a mistake and millions of his people had bought into it.

The message is as follows. Many of us have grown up in religious backgrounds. We have not realized that we have been in some form of bondage to that religion. We have all grown up in customs and traditions of men that have become a part of our lives, bondage. The earrings need to be removed.

You cannot see your ears. Trying to see your ears is like a dog trying to catch his tail. Sometimes we are in bondage and don't even realize it. Only when we step away from the rut of religion can we be set free as spoken of in Isa. 61:1. Yeshua came to set us free from bondage, that bondage includes bondage to pagan christian and other religions that don't line up with the Word.

### **How do you know who your owner is?**

That is why the bible says "you will know who they are by their fruit /deeds". The deeds/works of a true follower of the Holy One of Israel is **seen** by his works, his obedience to torah. Are you sure you are not creating idolatry in the process you have been using to follow Yah? Have you been using a preacher, teacher, man, woman, prophet, rabbi as your intermediary or have you been connecting directly with Yah? This can be a life changing revelation to many people.

Think about it, Moses is coming down from the mountain with two stone tablets that had Yah's commandments written on them with His own fire. After previously begging for their lives, Moses takes the tablets and throws them to the ground at the feet of Aaron where they break. They were breaking the commandments! They were breaking the commandments and it had caused them to get into idolatry, the very reason they became slaves in Egypt originally. The only way that you can be absolutely sure you have righteousness in your life is to submit in your humility, to the Living Words of Dad's torah, His Book of LIFE (nun). In order to receive and use His power and authority in our lives, we must be under someones authority in our lives. That someone at times may be our wife, husband, five year old child, etc. that the Ruach is speaking through. If we submit ourselves to the authority of the Ruach Hakodesh He will reveal Himself through His Word and those around us who have in turn submitted themselves to Him. That is the movement of the spirit!

### **B ANTI-MESSIAH CONNECTION**

At mount Sinai, Aaron, (who should have known better), made a golden calf for the people, and they had the nerve to say it was in honor of Adonai. These people made a graven image or idol to Adonai exactly the opposite of what was clearly told to them in the

second commandment just prior. You can see here that the anti-Messiah spirit was already working on the people. They seemed to be sincere, and yet what did Adonai do about it? Moses drew a line in the sand and said whoever is for Adonai stand on this side and whoever is not, be killed. **Exod. 32:26-29** *“then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, “Whoever is for the LORD, {come} to me!” And all the sons of Levi gathered together to him. And he said to them, “Thus says the LORD, the YHVH of Israel, ‘Every man {of you} put his sword upon his thigh, and go back and forth from gate to gate in the camp, and kill every man his brother, and every man his friend, and every man his neighbor.’” So the sons of Levi did as Moses instructed, and about **three thousand men of the people fell that day**. Then Moses said, “Dedicate yourselves today to the LORD—for every man has been against his son and against his brother—in order that He may bestow a blessing upon you today.”* Many proclaimed Believers today have stepped across the dividing line and gone ahead with heathen worship. In the time of Moses they were killed for doing so, I believe that only the grace of Adonai has kept these fraudulent people from being killed today.

### **Timing**

I believe because there is another thematic connection related to this golden calf idea, we must have a look at. At the time Moses went up the mountain the people made a serious timing error. The people timed the return of their great leader (their Messiah) wrong the first time he went up the mountain, and ended up worshipping a golden calf. **The golden calf is a type of the anti-Messiah.** When the pre-tribulation people miscalculate the return of Yeshua, they will follow another Messiah, just like they did at Mt. Sinai. Moses had "righteous indignation" and he dealt with these people in a deadly manner as revealed in Exod. 32:25-28.

(Mar 15/16) Jerry Hennig