

Deuteronomy 9 - Moses reminds Israel of the Golden Calf

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Introduction

Deu 9:1-29

Moses dissuades them from the opinion of their own righteousness

¹ Hear, O Israel: Thou *art* to pass over Jordan this day, to go in to possess nations greater and mightier than thyself, cities great and fenced up to heaven, ² A people great and tall, the children of the Anakims, whom thou knowest, and *of whom* thou hast heard *say*, Who can stand before the children of Anak! ^A ³ Understand therefore this day, that YHVH thy God *is* he which goeth over before thee; *as* a consuming fire he shall destroy them, and he shall bring them down before thy face: so shalt thou drive them out, and destroy them quickly, as YHVH hath said unto thee. ⁴ Speak not thou in thine heart, after that YHVH thy God hath cast them out from before thee, saying, For my righteousness YHVH hath brought me in to possess this land: but for the wickedness of these nations YHVH doth drive them out from before thee. ⁵ Not for thy righteousness, or for the uprightness of thine heart, dost thou go to possess their land: but for the wickedness of these nations YHVH thy God doth drive them out from before thee, and that he may perform the word which YHVH sware unto thy fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. ⁶ Understand therefore, that YHVH thy God giveth thee not this good land to possess it for thy righteousness; for thou *art* a stiffnecked people.

Moses reminds them of the golden calf

⁷ Remember, *and not* forget אַתְּ אֶתְּ, how thou provokedst YHVH thy God to wrath in the wilderness: from the day that thou didst depart out of the land of Egypt, until ye came unto this place, ye have been rebellious against YHVH.

-et' hik-Tzaf-ta to wrath אַתְּ אֶתְּ -a-Sher' you אֶתְּ et' אֶתְּ ,tish-Kach and] forget] אַתְּ אֶתְּ -al' not אֶלְּ ze-Chor Remember זָכַר ⁷
-le-min from לְמִן ;bam-mid-Bar in the wilderness בְּמִדְבָּר e-lo-Hei-cha' thy God אֱלֹהֶיךָ Yah-weh not how thou provokedst the LORD הֲוֵהְךָ
of מִצְרַיִם me-'E-retz of the land מִצְרַיִם ya-Tza-ta that thou didst depart out | וְיָצֵאתָ -a-Sher' you אֶתְּ הַיּוֹם הַיּוֹם הַיּוֹם
,this haz-Zeh הַיּוֹם unto this place ham-ma-Kom הַמָּקוֹם -ad' until עַד- bo-'a-Chem until ye came בְּאֵיכֶם -ad' until עַד- ,mitz-Ra-yim Egypt
.the LORD Yah-weh הֲוֵהְךָ -im' against עַם- he-yi:Tem have been הָיִיתֶם mam-Rim ye have been rebellious מְמַרְיִם

⁸ Also in Horeb ye provoked YHVH to wrath, so that YHVH was angry with you to have destroyed you. ⁹ When I was gone up into the mount to receive the tables of stone, *even* the tables of the covenant which YHVH

^A The ones who made this report were fellow Israelites i.e. the evil report

made with you, then I abode in the mount forty days and forty nights, I neither did eat bread nor drink water:^B

¹⁰ And YHVH delivered unto me two tables לוחות *lu-Chot* of stone האבנים *ha'a-va-Nim* written כתובים *ke-tu-Vim* ^C with the finger באצבע *be-'etz-Ba'* of God אלהים *E-lo-Him*,^D and on them *was written* according to all the words, which YHVH spake with you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly. ¹¹ And it came to pass at the end of forty days and forty nights, *that* YHVH gave me the two tables of stone, *even* the tables of the covenant הברית *hab-be-Rit*. ¹² And YHVH said unto me, Arise, get thee down quickly from hence; for thy people which thou hast brought forth out of Egypt have corrupted שחת *shi-Chet* *themselves*; they are quickly turned aside out of the way הדרך *had-De-rech* which I commanded them; they have made them a molten image מסכה *mas-se-Chah*. ¹³ Furthermore YHVH spake unto me, saying, I have seen this people, and, behold, it *is* a stiffnecked people: ¹⁴ Let me alone, that I may destroy them, and blot out their name from under heaven:^E and I will make of thee a nation mightier and greater than they.

¹⁵ So I turned and came down from the mount, and the mount burned with fire: and the two tables of the covenant *were* in my two hands. ¹⁶ And I looked, and, behold, ye had sinned against YHVH your God, *and* had made you a molten calf: ye had turned aside סרתם *sar-Tem* quickly out of the way which YHVH had commanded you. ¹⁷ And I took the two tables, and cast them out of my two hands, and brake them before your eyes. ¹⁸ And I fell down before YHVH, as at the first, forty days and forty nights: I did neither eat bread, nor drink water, because of all your sins which ye sinned, in doing wickedly in the sight of YHVH, to provoke him to anger. ¹⁹ For I was afraid of the anger and hot displeasure, wherewith YHVH was wroth against you to destroy you. But YHVH hearkened unto me at that time also.

²⁰ And YHVH was very angry with Aaron to have destroyed him: and I prayed for Aaron ^F also the same time.

²¹ And I took your sin, the calf which ye had made, and burnt it with fire, and stamped ואת *va-'ek-Kot* it, *and* ground טחון *ta-chOn* it very small, *even* until it was as small as dust לעפר *le'a-Far*: and I cast the dust thereof into the brook הנחל *han-Na-chal* that descended out of the mount.

²² And at Taberah, and at Massah, and at Kibrothhattaavah, ye provoked YHVH to wrath. ²³ Likewise when YHVH sent you from Kadeshbarnea, saying, Go up and possess the land which I have given you; then ye rebelled against the commandment of YHVH your God, and ye believed him not, nor hearkened to his voice. ²⁴

^B "Cleanliness is next to Godliness" this solves the problem of Moshe, he doesn't have to deal with going to the bath room on sacred land

^C See Word-Study-H3789-katav-write-G1125-grapho, article #[1363](#).

^D This was a hand written *Katuba* by YHVH, where YHVH gives Yisrael the law, i.e. YHVH was being the law (Torah) giver. A search on "the finger of God": Exo_8:19, Exo_31:18, Deu_9:10, Luk_11:20.

^E The context is about the *Katuba* (see comments in Deu_9:10) is it possible that their words of their names were on the *Katuba*. Keep in mind that this is a book of life. He will cut a contract with Moshe. see possibly Rev_3:5.

^F John Mack says he thinks that Moshe was saying "the sinners prayer". GM suggests that Deu_9:20-24 is parenthetic and so the normal flow would be Deu_9:19 and then Deu_9:25.

Ye have been rebellious against YHVH from the day that I knew you. ²⁵ Thus I fell down before YHVH **את**^G forty days and forty nights, as I fell down *at the first*; because YHVH had said he would destroy you.

days הַיּוֹם ar-ba-'Im' forty אַרְבָּעִים et' את the LORD Yah-weh יְהוָה lif-Nei before לְפָנַי va-'et-nap-Pal Thus I fell down וַאֲתַנַּפַּל ²⁵
;as I fell down hit-nap-Pal-ti הֵתַנַּפַּלְתִּי a-Sher' which אֲשֶׁר hal-Lay-lah nights הַלַּיְלָה ar-ba-'Im' and forty אַרְבָּעִים ve-'Et וְאֶתְּ הַיּוֹם
.et-Chem' אֶתְּכֶם le-hash-Mid he would destroy לְהַשְׁמִיד Yah-weh at the first] because the LORD] יְהוָה a-Mar' had said אָמַר -ki because כִּי

²⁶ I prayed therefore unto YHVH, and said, O Lord GOD, destroy not thy people and thine inheritance, which thou hast redeemed through thy greatness, which thou hast brought forth out of Egypt with a mighty hand. ²⁷ Remember thy servants, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; look not unto the stubbornness of this people, nor to their wickedness, nor to their sin: ²⁸ Lest the land whence thou broughtest us out say, Because YHVH was not able to bring them into the land which he promised them, and because he hated them, he hath brought them out to slay them in the wilderness. ²⁹ Yet they *are* thy people and thine inheritance וְנַחֲלָתְךָ ve-na-cha-la-Te-cha, which thou broughtest out by thy mighty הַגָּדֹל hag-ga-Dol power בְּכֹחְךָ be-cho-cha-Cha and by thy stretched הַנְּטוּיָה han-ne-tu-Yah out arm וּבְזְרֹעֶךָ u-viz-ro-'a-Cha.

^G David Mack says when the two words YHVH and Aleph Tav are put together it's usually Aleph Tav YHVH.