

119

MINISTRIES

“The following is a direct script of a teaching that is intended to be presented via video, incorporating relevant text, slides, media, and graphics to assist in illustration, thus facilitating the presentation of the material. In some places, this may cause the written material to not flow or sound rather awkward in some places. In addition, there may be grammatical errors that are often not acceptable in literary work. We encourage the viewing of the video teachings to complement the written teaching you see below.”

Parashah Points: Ki Tisa – Modern Day Golden Calves

Welcome to another episode of Parashah Points—short thoughts from the weekly Torah Portion.

This week’s Parashah Point comes from Ki Tisa (kee tee-sah), which is Hebrew for “When you take,” and it goes from Exodus 30:11 to Exodus 34:35.

This Torah portion contains more instructions concerning the Tabernacle, the Golden Calf incident, Moses’ intercession on behalf of Israel, and the radiant face of Moses from being in God’s presence.

There’s a lot we can talk about in this Torah Portion. Today we’re going to present just a thought on our modern day golden calves.

Exodus 32:1

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered themselves together to Aaron and said to him, “Up, make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.”

According to this week’s Torah Portion, the Israelites did not know what happened to Moses. He was gone for a long time—forty days according to Exodus 24:18—and so their uncertainty moved them to go to Aaron and demand he make “gods” to lead them to the Promised Land. They were uncomfortable and frustrated with the uncertainty and the waiting, so they turned to sin and idolatry.

We all know the story. This act of idolatry led to complete disaster and death.

What’s tragic about this story is that God had a much better plan for His people. He always does. Moses was on the mountain receiving the commandments regarding the Tabernacle and the priesthood. If the people had just been patient, they would have learned about how Aaron was going to be the high priest and the people were soon going to be able to encounter God’s presence in a deep and profound way through the Tabernacle services. They would also soon have been back to following Moses to the Promised Land. But the people, in their impatience, sidestepped God’s will and made a golden calf

instead.

It's easy to look back on this story and judge the Israelites. But how often do we do the same thing? Rather than waiting and trusting in God, we likewise make excuses to sidestep his will. We assume that God's will for our lives isn't going to work out, so we take matters into our own hands.

For instance, we might justify working on the Sabbath because we've convinced ourselves that we need the money and that God isn't capable of providing something better. If we're single, we might enter into an intimate relationship with someone we know, who we aren't supposed to be with, simply because we're feeling lonely, impatient, and we aren't trusting God to bring us our spouse in His timing.

Indeed, we're still building golden calves. We're still taking matters into our own hands instead of trusting in God. We sacrifice the good things that God wants for us for a counterfeit. But like we see in this Torah Portion, bowing down to a golden calf ends only in disaster.

Don't sidestep God's will for your life. Trust in Him. Trust in His Word—especially in the times of waiting and uncertainty. He hasn't abandoned you. God's plan is always better than your golden calf can ever be.

Thank you for joining us for another Parashah Point!

We pray you have been blessed by this teaching. Remember, continue to test everything. Shalom! For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at www.testeverything.net

Shalom, and may Yahweh bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.

EMAIL: Info@119ministries.com

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/119Ministries

WEBSITE: www.TestEverything.net & www.ExaminaloTodo.net

TWITTER: [www.twitter.com/119Ministries#](https://twitter.com/119Ministries#)