

Exodus 32:4

And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. Then they said, "This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!"

If you have read about the Children Of Israel and how God lead them out of Egypt into the Promised Land. Then you are familiar with the account of when Moses was on the mountain, and the Children of Israel made a gold calf and worshipped it. Also if you read throughout the Old Testament, you read of this happening a lot with the Children of Israel, how they would turn their backs on God and worship a golden calf that they would make for themselves.

But did you ever wonder why they made a gold calf to worship? I mean, if you think about it, they could have made any animal or anything into a god, yet they chose to make a calf to worship instead of a camel, or a frog, or a fish, or a tree, or an image of a man.

Read this next verse from Leviticus and see if you come up with what I did?

† **Leviticus 9:3** *And to the children of Israel you shall speak, saying, 'Take a kid of the goats as a sin offering, and a calf and a lamb, both of the first year, without blemish, as a burnt offering.'*

You see, a calf was an offering to God. So let me present before you the reason I think they worshipped a calf. I think it was because they worshipped the offering instead of the God that they were supposed to give the offering to.

With that in mind, read this next verse in 2 Kings:

† **2 Kings 12:16** *The money from the trespass offerings and the money from the sin offerings was not brought into the house of the LORD. It belonged to the priests.*

We know this as the tithe that we all should be giving to God. Yet how many worship the offering more than the God we are to give the offering to?

Do we ask God to give us our god (money) because we can't live without our god, and if He doesn't, then we feel like God does not love us because He is not supplying our god (money) to us? Even Jesus said, ***"No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."*** Matthew 6:24

Sure, we do need money to survive now a days on this earth, to buy our food, pay our rent, buy clothes etc... but once again Jesus said:

† **Luke 12:27-28** *Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. If then God so clothes the grass, which today is in the field and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will He clothe you, O you of little faith?*

So let's not be like the Children of Israel when they were wandering the wilderness and made the offering their worship. Let's worship our God who supplies to us so we can give back to Him, and stop worshipping what He gives us to give back to Him.

† **Matthew 10:8** *Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.*