

Idolatry

1 Corinthians 10:11 Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

- 1 Corinthians 10:1 Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, 1 Corinthians 10:2 all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, 1 Corinthians 10:3 all ate the same spiritual food, 1 Corinthians 10:4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. 1 Corinthians 10:5 But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. 1 Corinthians **10:6 Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. 1 Corinthians 10:7 And do not become idolaters as were some of them. As it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play." 1 Corinthians 10:8 Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell; 1 Corinthians 10:9 nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents; 1 Corinthians 10:10 nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer.**
 - "Bull-calf" is better than either calf or "bull," since the male bovine was widely recognized as a symbol of power and fertility, and the Hebrew clearly denotes a young bull. This is Jehovah our deliverer but within this false worship was facilitated the sensuality of the flesh.
 - Aaron's golden calf was probably modeled after Apis, an Egyptian bull god. Apis was connected with another Egyptian god, Osiris. Magnificent bulls worshiped in life as Apis were buried at death as Osiris-Apis, a name that became Serapis during the intertestamental period. The notoriety of Aaron's golden calf is underscored by several biblical references to it in historical summaries (**Dt 9:16, 21; Neh 9:18; Ps 106:19, 20; Acts 7:39–41**)
 - **This act of rebellion was so notable that it served as an example of God's justice from that time forward. But as is so common that history be repeated, those who were unlearned fell into the same trap of turning to their own devices.**
 - Jeroboam I (930–909 bc), the first **king** of Israel after the division of the monarchy, set up shrines at Dan in the far north and at Bethel in the south, installing a golden calf in each (1 Kgs 12:26–33; 2 Chr 11:13–15). **Israel's prophets knew that such calves were not the one true God (Hos 8:5, 6). Hosea called the calf at Bethel ("house of God") the calf of "Bethaven" ("house of wickedness," Hos 10:5, 6).** Within two centuries after Jeroboam's time people had stooped to kissing calves (Hos 13:2), and Jeroboam's sinful act was listed as one of the main factors leading to the destruction of Samaria, Israel's capital city, and the northern kingdom's exile in 722 bc (2 Kgs 17:16).
 - **king** -Deuteronomy 17:15 you shall surely set a king over you whom the Lord your God chooses; one from among your brethren you shall set as king over you; you may not set a foreigner over you, who is not your brother.
 - Deuteronomy 17:18 "Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from the one before the priests, the Levites. Deuteronomy 17:19 And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes, Deuteronomy 17:20 that his heart may not be lifted above his brethren, that he may not turn aside from the commandment to the right hand or to the left, and that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children in the midst of Israel.
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