

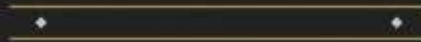


Our Golden Calves



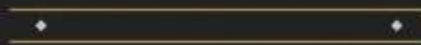
Exodus 20:2-5a

² “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. ³ “You shall have no other gods before Me.



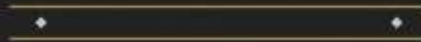
Exodus 20:2-5a

⁴ “You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; ⁵ you shall not bow down to them nor serve them.



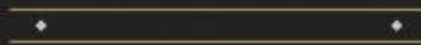
Exodus 32:1-4

¹ Now when the people saw that Moses delayed coming down from the mountain, the people gathered together to Aaron, and said to him, “Come, make us gods that shall go before us; for 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.”



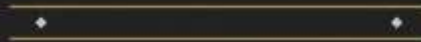
Exodus 32:1-4

² And Aaron said to them, “Break off the golden earrings which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.”



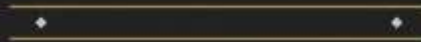
Exodus 32:1-4

³ So all the people broke off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them to Aaron.



Exodus 32:1-4

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!”



Our Golden Calves

Money

Sports

Drugs

Television

Relationships

Food

Internet

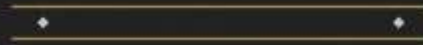
Power

Malls

Grudges

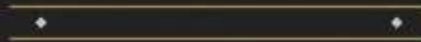
Sex

Gyms



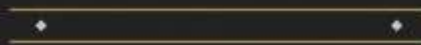
Our Golden Calves

- Some go back to what is comfortable to the flesh



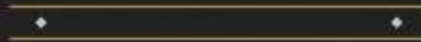
2Peter 2:20-22

²⁰ For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning.



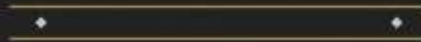
2Peter 2:20-22

²¹ For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them.



2Peter 2:20-22

²² But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: “A dog returns to his own vomit,” and, “a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire.”



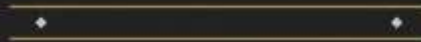
Galatians 4:8,9

⁸ But then, indeed, when you did not know God, you served those which by nature are not gods. ⁹ But now after you have known God, or rather are known by God, how is it that you turn again to the weak and beggarly elements, to which you desire again to be in bondage.



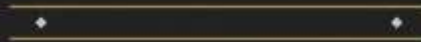
Stephen's Defense in Acts 7

And in their hearts they
turned back to Egypt, saying
to Aaron, 'Make us gods to go
before us.'



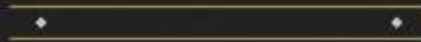
Our Golden Calves

- We go back to what is comfortable to the flesh
- We go where there are no demands morally or spiritually



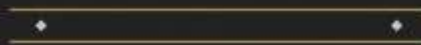
Exodus 32:6b

... and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.



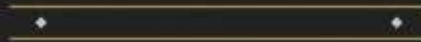
Exodus 32:17-19

¹⁷ And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, “There is a noise of war in the camp.” ¹⁸ But he said: “It is not the noise of the shout of victory, nor the noise of the cry of defeat, but the sound of singing I hear.”



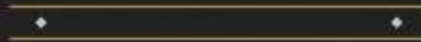
Exodus 32:17-19

¹⁹ So it was, as soon as he came near the camp, that he saw the calf and the dancing. So Moses' anger became hot, and he cast the tablets out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain.



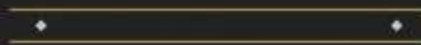
Hosea 4:14b

For the men themselves go apart with harlots, and offer sacrifices with a ritual harlot. Therefore people who do not understand will be trampled.



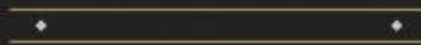
1Kings 14:24

... and there were also male cult prostitutes in the land. They did according to all the abominations of the nations that the LORD drove out before the people of Israel.



Our Golden Calves

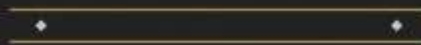
- Some go back to what is comfortable to the flesh
- Some go where there are no demands morally or spiritually
 - Golden calves are ultimately unable to fill the void



Psalm 135:15-17

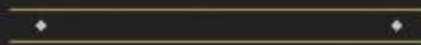
¹⁵ The idols of the nations are silver and gold, the work of men's hands.

¹⁶ They have mouths, but they do not speak; eyes they have, but they do not see; ¹⁷ They have ears, but they do not hear; nor is there any breath in their mouths.



Daniel 5:23b

And you have praised the gods of silver and gold, bronze and iron, wood and stone, which do not see or hear or know; and the God who holds your breath in His hand and owns all your ways, you have not glorified.



Our Golden Calves

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Television

Relationships

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Internet

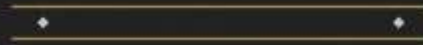
Power

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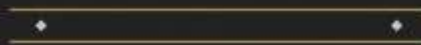
Sex

Gyms

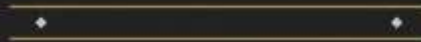


Our Golden Calves

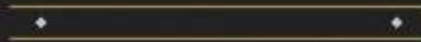
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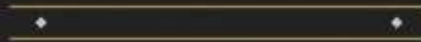
When Israel heard the fiery law,
From Sinai's top proclaimed;
Their hearts seemed full of holy awe,
Their stubborn spirits tamed.



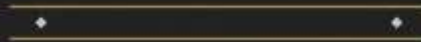
Yet, as forgetting all they knew,
Ere forty days were past;
With blazing Sinai still in view,
A molten calf they cast.



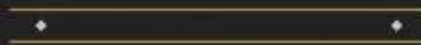
Yea, Aaron, God's anointed priest,
Who on the mount had been
He durst prepare the idol-beast,
And lead them on to sin.



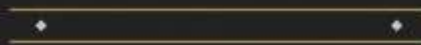
Lord, what is man! and what are we,
To recompense thee thus!
In their offence our own we see,
Their story points at us.



From Sinai we have heard thee speak,
And from mount Calv'ry too;
And yet to idols oft we seek,
While thou art in our view.



Some golden calf, or golden dream,
Some fancied creature-good,
Presumes to share the heart with him,
Who bought the whole with blood.



Lord, save us from our golden calves,
Our sin with grief we own;
We would no more be thine by halves,
But live to thee alone.

“The Golden Calf”
John Newton

