

What's in a name?



- Since the 9th century B.C. Ephraim had come to look more like Canaan than the Israel that fled Egypt
- 9th cent. B.C., Baal worship 8th cent. B.C. worship of the Golden Calves as a representation of YHWH
- Israel believed that Yehoveh was one of many gods
- Allah and YHWH are not the same god; different names, identities and people groups: Ishmael vs. Isaac

"I am YHWH your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt..."



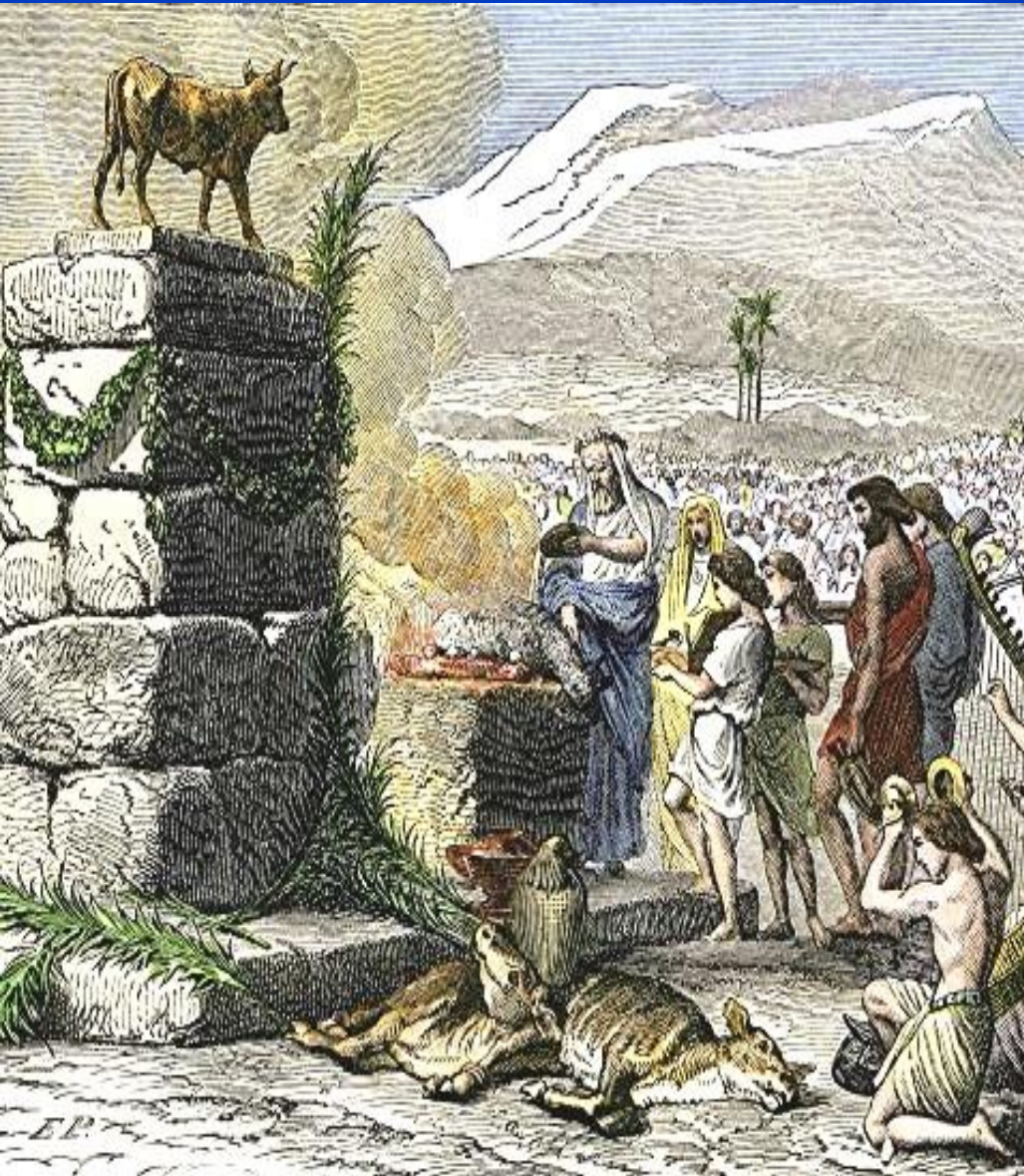
- The Christian version of the 10 Commandments skips over the 1st commandment ("I am YHWH your God")
- Exodus 20:1 – 6
- **AI** = before, meant in sense of a pecking order. The better word is "above"
- YHWH's covenant with Israel was exclusive... ONE God only for Israel



God's Prophets are His agents

- The Prophets are integral to salvation history
- What sets Prophets apart is receiving direct speech from God, sometimes including divine visions
- Prophetic words possess actual power that cause the actualization of God's speech into tangible reality
- No one, and nothing, can stop those words from happening so repent, change and PREPARE!

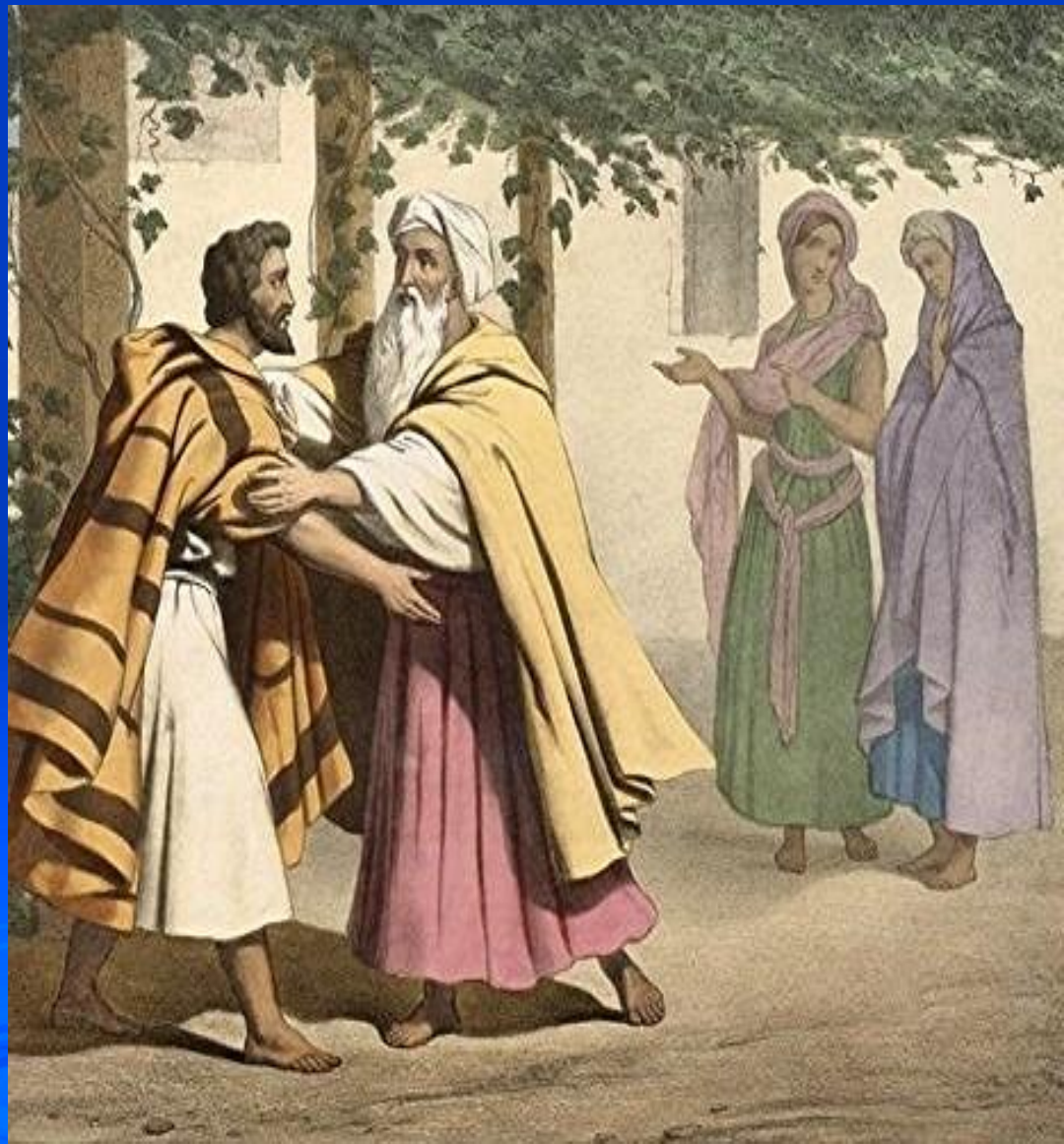
WRONG PLACE, WRONG ALTAR



- God has revealed His expectations in writing
- **Avon** = iniquity
- Gilgal and Gilead represented places of cult evil
- Micah 1:6 – 7
- God does not accept improper worship, and He punishes for it
- How we imagine God is to primarily come from the Torah
- Hosea 4:6

WHY THE JACOB STORY?

- Vss. 13 & 14 work as a unit
- In this case Jacob and Israel are 2 names for the same person
- The point comes in verse 14
- Here “Israel” is the nation, but Jacob is the protected one
- Luther Mays: *In the Assyrian crisis some circles in the nation probably turned to the Jacob tradition... as a theology of last resort*





Hosea 13

- Israel's sin: they violated the first 2 commandments
- Vs. 1 of chapter 13 better belongs as the final verse of chapter 12
- Here Ephraim means only his one tribe, and not as an alternate name for all of the Northern Kingdom
- When Ephraim turned to Baal, Ephraim became "dead" to God

IMAGES vs. IDOLS

- English Bible versions say God upset over two things:
 - 1) molten images
 - 2) making idols
- ***Maccekah*** = anything that is molten
- ***Asabbim*** = images
- God is upset only over 1 thing, here, and it is molten images
- At first Israel started worshipping Baal (idols)
- Later they made a molten calf image and worshipped it as representative of YHWH



A close-up photograph of vibrant green grass blades, each covered with numerous clear, glistening dew drops. The background is softly blurred, creating a sense of depth and highlighting the texture of the grass and the individual droplets.

The
disappearance
of Israel is
like.....

- 4 figures of speech used to describe the end of Israel's existence as a nation: cloud, dew, chaff, smoke
- Vs. 4 The point is that YHWH is the name of Israel's God
- Therefore, since YHWH is their only God, He can be their only source of divine deliverance



God lays in wait
like a fierce
predator

- Despite giving Israel food and water in the wilderness, they became proud and forgot YHWH
- Vss. 7 & 8 God is going to act in a furious way towards Israel, not just lift His hand of protection
- Vs. 9 This is Israel's own fault, so punishment is due
- Deuteronomy 32:36 - 42