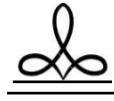


The Three Major Sins of Israel - Don't Repeat Them!



Unbelief

Disobedience

Unthankful



Unbelief



Disobedience



Unthankfulness

The Three Major Sins of Israel - Don't Repeat Them!

¹The Sin of Unbelief & Its Consequences

The first major sin of Israel was – UNBELIEF, which led to the creating of the golden calf and worshipping it. So, you might want to cut them a little slack at first, thinking, well, they didn't have YAH's laws yet to know better. In fact, Moses had not come down from the top of Mt. Sinia with the laws yet. But, we know that they already knew enough about the goodness of YAH to have strong faith in him – if we read the song that Moses and the Children of Israel sang to the LORD after their deliverance at the red sea in **Ex 15:1**- they said,

*"I will sing to the LORD, For He has triumphed gloriously! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea! ²The LORD is my strength and song, And **He has become my salvation**; He is my Elohim, and I will praise Him; My father's Elohim, and I will exalt Him. ⁶Your right*

*hand, O LORD, has become glorious in power; Your right hand, O LORD, has dashed the enemy in pieces. ⁷And in the greatness of Your excellence You have overthrown those who rose against You; You sent forth Your wrath; It consumed them like stubble. ¹¹**Who is like You, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like You, glorious in holiness, Fearful in praises, doing wonders?"***

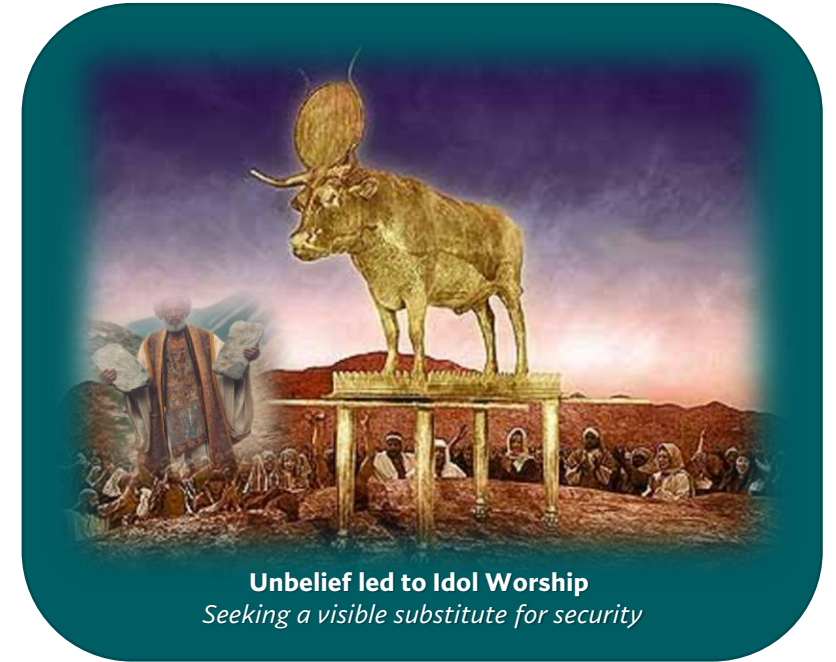
This great miracle and the previous ten worked on their behalf back in Egypt was more than enough hard **proof that YAH could be trusted**. They acknowledged this in their singing. So, they were breaking the very first commandment, to have no other gods before YAH, even before Moses could descend from the mountain.

This **untrusting act**, with so many others that followed as they traveled to the Promised Land, was proof of Israel's **first rejection** of

YAH, the invisible Elohim, for even a hand-made image that could be seen. This **distrust, and rebellion** was Israel taking things into their own hands to control and direct their lives. They lost the vision that they sang about – "the LORD being their strength, their salvat-

ion, and that there were no other gods that could be compared to Him."

When Israel got to the Promised Land, and Joshua sent the 12 spies to search out the land, all but 2 came back with a bad report. The people chose to believe the other 10 instead of the 2 that agreed with YAH – that the land was given to them, and they were well able to



Unbelief led to Idol Worship
Seeking a visible substitute for security

take it. Instead they said, *"Why should we go up? Our brethren have discouraged our heart."* **Out of unbelief**, Joshua said Israel chose to rebel against the commandment of YAH, despite his promise to go before them and to fight for them, just as he did in Egypt. This failure to believe cost Israel forty years of wandering in the wilderness – a trip that they could have made in just about eleven days. **(Deut 1:2)** *Don't repeat this sin!*

O, Give Thanks to the LORD for His Eternal Faithfulness to Israel (Psalm 105)

The Three Major Sins of Israel - Don't Repeat Them!

²The Sin of Disobedience & Its Consequences

The second major sin of Israel was – that of **DISOBEDIENCE** – which is a failure to follow the rules, guidelines, or laws. **This is also the major consequences for the sin of unbelief.** As discussed under the sin of unbelief, the failure of Israel to enter the Promised Land when YAH told them to enter, was one of the most consequential cases of disobedience in the history of Israel, **causing them to have to wander around in the wilderness for 40 years, instead of a 13-day trip at most.** The whole purpose of the exodus was to enter into Canaan. What could have made Israel so blind to not move forward into complete freedom?

Disobedience is almost always accompanied by either **neglect, stubbornness, pride, or rebellion** that causes people to defy leaders or instructions. Joshua tried to encourage the people to not be

rebellious, by telling them - *“The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land. If the LORD delight in us, then He will bring us into the land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey. Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defense is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: fear not. But all the congregation bade stone them with stones”*

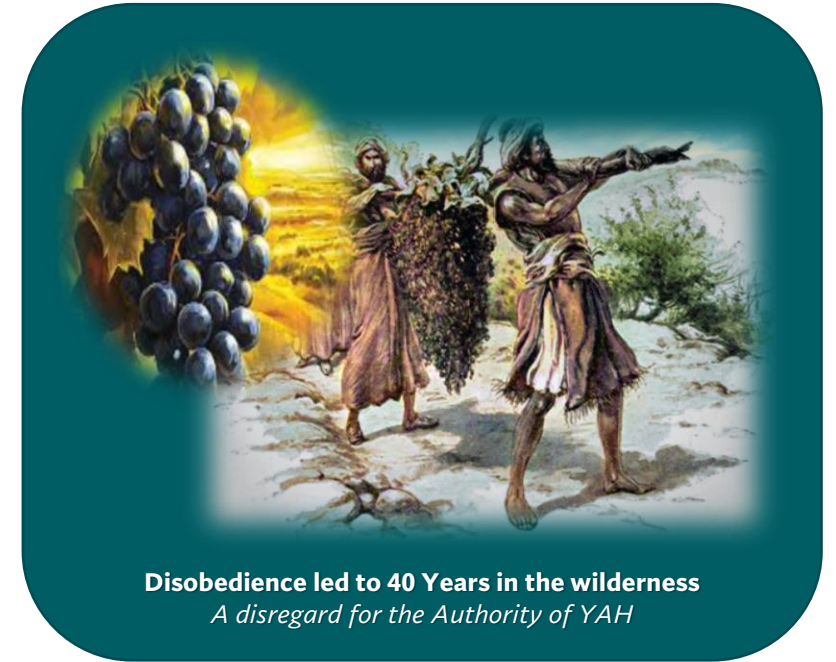
The prophet Samuel told King Saul in **1 Sam 15:23** – *“For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.”* Saul was rejected as king because of his stubbornness and disobedience. It is a serious thing to be disobedient to YAH.

YAH makes the connection of Israel's first major sin of **“unbelief”**

with their following actions of rebellion and refusing to enter the land. He speaks of all the signs he had already shown them, which should have built their faith in his faithfulness towards them. But their hearts were not set to love and trust him, as the loving Father & Savior he was for them.

In his anger, this is what YAH told Moses he would do, after Moses had interceded for the people - **²²Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracle, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have tempted me now these ten times, and have not hearkened to my voice; ²³Surely they shall not see the land which I swear unto their fathers, neither**

shall any of them that provoked me see it: ²⁴But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land.....” Having YAH go ahead of them as a **“Cloud”** by day and as a **“Pillar of Fire”** by night was not enough to compel Israel to follow YAH wholeheartedly. What does it take for us to be obedient children? Don't repeat this sin!



Disobedience led to 40 Years in the wilderness
A disregard for the Authority of YAH

O, Give Thanks to the LORD for His Eternal Faithfulness to Israel (Psalm 105)

The Three Major Sins of Israel - Don't Repeat Them!

³The Sin of Unthankfulness & Its Consequences

The third major sin of Israel was – that of **UNTHANKFULNESS**, which was a failure to appreciate what YAH had already done on their behalf. They kept **focusing on what was lacking** rather than on what was already provided for them.

Rather than being a people whose hearts were full of praise and gladness for all the things YAH had already provided and done for them - **in times of need, they chose to complain** and **picked memories** from their past that they wished they could return to - not remembering how they had begged and pleaded with YAH for deliverance from those very same memories that they had now “**sanitized**” in the fog of their memories.

They discounted all the good that had been shown to them when it

was time to trust YAH the most. **In times of need, is when they should have remembered – “He provided for us in the past – He can and will do it again.** Let’s wait and believe He will.” IF, in their faithfulness and patience, YAH failed, they would have felt justified in complaining. **But they were not faithful, believing, obedient, patient, nor least of all thankful.** If they had thankful hearts, it would not have been so easy for them to murmur and complain. It’s not possible to have a thankful heart and a murmuring spirit at the same time. One will displace the other. It takes an act of the will to have one or the other – it is a choice to be made.

Murmuring and grumbling creates a toxic environment. It is not contained by the creator, but is passed on to those around the complainer. It is like the little

leaven that leavens the whole lump. It also reveals a level of self-centeredness. We don’t usually mumble and grumble on someone else’s behave – it’s usually all about us. It is an inward focus – but not about the good.

It’s also not a secret – YAH hears it. This is what Moses told the people about their complaining – “. . . **The LORD heareth your murmurings** which ye murmur against him: and what are we? **Your murmurings are not against us, but against the LORD.** (Ex 16:8)

This is what YAH himself had to say about Israel in **Num 14:27** – “How long shall I bear with this evil congregation that murmur against



me? I have heard the murmurings of the Children of Israel, which they murmur against me.” YAH gave the people quails to eat, “**but while it was still between their teeth, the wrath of YAH rose against the people** and he struck them with a very great plague and there they buried a great number” (**Num 11:33**). Murmuring and unthankfulness can bring the displeasure of YAH to bear on his people. Don’t repeat this sin!

O, Give Thanks to the LORD for His Eternal Faithfulness to Israel (Psalm 105)



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