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Ekev-As a Result
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Introduction

Moses instructs against attitudes of self-righteousness that Israel's victories and conquest might bring. Instead, Israel is to hold on to humility as a safeguard against arrogance and smugness. Toward that end, Moses reminds his listeners of the sin of the golden calf and of God's anger, which was the result of that sin.

Deuteronomy 9:10-20

10 And the LORD gave me the two tablets of stone written with the finger of God, and on them were all the words that the LORD had spoken with you on the mountain out of the midst of the fire on the day of the assembly. ¹¹ And at the end of forty days and forty nights the LORD gave me the two tablets of stone, the tablets of the covenant. ¹² Then the LORD said to me, 'Arise, go down quickly from here, for your people whom you have brought from Egypt have acted corruptly. They have turned aside quickly out of the way that I commanded them; they have made themselves a metal image.' ¹³ "Furthermore, the LORD said to me, 'I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stubborn people. ¹⁴ Let me alone, that I may destroy them and blot out their name from under heaven. And I will make of you a nation mightier and greater than they.' ¹⁵ So I turned and came down from the mountain, and the mountain was burning with fire. And the two tablets of the covenant were in my two hands. ¹⁶ And I looked, and behold, you had sinned against the LORD your God. You had made yourselves a golden calf. You had turned aside quickly from the way that the LORD had commanded you. ¹⁷ So I took hold of the two tablets and threw them out of my two hands and broke them before your eyes. ¹⁸ Then I lay prostrate before the LORD as before, forty days and forty nights. I neither ate bread nor drank water, because of all the sin that you had committed, in doing what was evil in the sight of the LORD to provoke him to anger. ¹⁹ For I was afraid of the anger and hot displeasure that the LORD bore against you, so that he was ready to destroy you. But the LORD listened to me that time also. ²⁰ **And the LORD was so angry with Aaron that he was ready to destroy him. And I prayed for Aaron also at the same time.** (ESV)

Apparently, Moses says that the second forty days and forty nights he spent with the Lord was intercession with the Holy One for the sin of the people with the Golden Calf. The Almighty wanted to destroy Israel and start over again building a new nation through

Moses. Notice in verse 29, Moses relates the Lord was angry with Aaron over his part in the Golden Calf incident, and the Almighty was ready to destroy him. Moses interceded with Yehovah for Aaron. It's good when we go back every year and read the Torah portions and see new things we had not seen before. This is the beauty of the Bible. There is always something new to learn if we leave ourselves open to the teaching of the Ruach HaKodesh.

Yehovah was so angry with Israel, He wanted to wipe them out and start over. The question here would be, did Yehovah want to destroy Israel, or was this a test for Moses? Would Moses have agreed with Yehovah and allowed the Creator to start over again and bring forth a new nation built upon the foundation of Torah and faith in the Holy one with Moses as progenitor? We know he did not agree to this, did all he could to calm Yehovah down, and it worked until the next incident. The way of the Holy One is to walk according to His covenant of Torah, something that no nation on the earth is doing now. Perhaps, this is what they needed so Yehovah could offer mankind the opportunity to receive the gift of redemption. We have veered so badly-off course that it seems that we are hell-bent on mankind's destruction while there will be a remnant kept safe.

Isaiah 50:1-3

1 Thus says the LORD: "**Where is your mother's certificate of divorce**, with which I sent her away? Or which of my creditors is it to whom I have sold you? Behold, for your iniquities you were sold, and for your transgressions your mother was sent away. ² Why, when I came, was there no man; why, when I called, was there no one to answer? **Is my hand shortened, that it cannot redeem? Or have I no power to deliver?** Behold, by my rebuke I dry up the sea, I make the rivers a desert; their fish stink for lack of water and die of thirst. ³ I clothe the heavens with blackness and make sackcloth their covering." (ESV)

Where is the certificate of divorce? Why is this important? Because if there was no physical certificate given to Israel, then they can come behave like a man or woman of God should live their lives. No divorce certificate, then they were simply sent into exile with an opportunity to come back. Yehovah hates divorce. Yeshua says so, and who would know better than the Son of God? He calls us back to join Him and receive the gift Messiah Yeshua desires so much to give us.

Deu. 24:1"When a man takes a wife and marries her, if then she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some indecency in her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out of his house, and she departs out of his house, ² and if she goes and becomes another man's wife, ³ and the latter man hates her and writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out of his house, or if the latter man dies, who took her to be his wife, ⁴ then her former husband, who sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after she has been defiled, for that is an abomination before the LORD. And you shall not bring sin upon the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance. (ESV)

This is the passage about divorce and how and why it can be applied. In our society, we use divorce as an escape when God gave us the gift of marriage starting with Adam and Chavah. He set the tone, and Moses adjusted it knowing the heart of man. What other changes did Moses make to which we do not know?

Romans 11:25-32

25 For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery-- so that you will not be wise in your own estimation-- that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in; ²⁶ and so all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, "THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION, HE WILL REMOVE UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB." [Isa 59:20] ²⁷ "THIS IS MY COVENANT WITH THEM, WHEN I TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS." [Isa 27:9] ²⁸ From the standpoint of the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but from the standpoint of *God's* choice they are beloved for the sake of the fathers; ²⁹ for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ For just as you once were disobedient to God, but now have been shown mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so these also now have been disobedient, that because of the mercy shown to you they also may now be shown mercy. ³² For God has shut up all in disobedience so that He may show mercy to all. (NAU)

The Apostle Paul or Shaul shares the meaning of the mystery of how the nations will be permitted to receive the gift of eternal life. He wants his people to go out and share their faith in Messiah Yeshua, and this includes the nations because even they can now receive the gift to which most of Israel was blinded to: salvation from the hand of God.

Isa 27: 9 Therefore by this the guilt of Jacob will be atoned for, and this will be the full fruit of the removal of his sin: when he makes all the stones of the altars like chalkstones crushed to pieces, no Asherim or incense altars will remain standing. (ESV)

Israel struggled throughout their history to do what Yehovah wanted them to do. They had failed to destroy the high places in the land. This was idolatry, and the Holy One of Israel will not share His holiness with anyone else. We are not gods, nor will we ever be. That was not what the Lord had planned. He desires a redeemed people from among all of the nations to become part of the one true nation – Israel! Time is growing short. Are you ready?

Torah Man says: "Prosperity begets friends, adversity proves them."

Blessings in Messiah Yeshua,

Mordecai Silver

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