

The Day Of ...Small Things

I. Moses Ground The Calf Very Small

Deuteronomy 9:21

- Brook: stream that flowed from the rock
 - Ex.17:6
 - Ps.78:16-20
 - Ps.105:41
- Same water that gave them life took their idol out of sight

Exodus 32, the idol

1: sneaked it in while Moses was away.

2: from earrings

4: image of calf?

8-10: people on edge of total destruction

20: could not save itself

27: death to idolaters

35: plagues ... a lesson for living

Deuteronomy 9:21

- **Decisive break with the past**
 - Is.2:18-21 . . . some learn the hard way (1 Co.8:4)
 - Ac.19: . . . 18-19, the easy way
 - Sacrifice
 - Burned bridges behind them

I. Moses Ground The Calf Very Small

II. God's Small Voice

1 Kings 19:12

- God can speak in a thunderous voice (John 12:28)
 - His small voice to Elijah must have been intentional
- Deliberate contrast with other ‘great’ phenomena –
 - Great wind, 11
 - Earthquake, 11
 - Fire, 12
 - Still small voice, 12

1 Kings 19:12

- The point?
 - People are converted, not by terrors / force, but by force of God's word.
 - If gospel cannot turn a person to the Lord, nothing can. Ac.13:...46.
 - Elijah would not save Israel by terrific displays of power, but by the quiet persevering labors of God's servants.

1 Kings 19:12

- The point?
 - Mt.12:19
 - Lk.17:20-21
- 1 K.17:13, small cake ... 18:44
 - Small cloud, yet look at what it produced
- Col.1:23

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II. God's Small Voice

III. Small Strength

Prov.24:10

- No one knows his strength until tested by trials. 1 Co.11:19
- To faint is to give in to discouragement and despair in the day of trial. Gal.6:9
- How to grow in strength?
 - Pray and study. 1 Pt.4:7
 - Realize what is at stake, 2 Co.4:1

I. Moses Ground The Calf Very Small

II. God's Small Voice

III. Small Strength

**IV. Do not Despise Day
of Small Things**

Zechariah 4:...10

- **Context:** Ezra 2-6; Zech.4:6-10
 - After 70 years of Babylonian captivity, 50,000 returned to Canaan
 - **Zerubbabel:** political head
 - **Joshua:** high priest
 - **Haggai and Zechariah:** prophets

Zechariah 4:...10

- **Context:** Ezra 2-6; Zech.4:6-10
- **Concern:** Zechariah's eight visions were designed to set a fire under Jews who had become lax in spiritual duties
 - Started rebuilding Temple; opposition stopped them (Ezra 4)
 - Enemies mocked: Jews were discouraged
 - Jews turned to other projects: wood-paneled homes (Hag.1:4)

Zechariah 4:...10

- Context: Ezra 2-6; Zech.4:6-10
- Concern:
 - Fifth vision: Jews have despised day of small things (4:6-7, 10).
 - Zerubbabel had despised the early start
 - The project that was impossible for man was not impossible for God.

God delights in small things...

- Jochebed: small basket saved baby (Moses)
- Moses: rod delivered nation from Egypt
- Joshua: two spies in Jericho; small cord
- Samson killed 1000 Philistines with jawbone
- Jonathan and armor bearer defeated enemy
- David used small stone to fell a giant
- Handful of meal, jar of oil sustained widow
- Five barley loaves, two fish fed multitude
- Mustard seed would become great tree
- Basket saved life of Paul

Christians cannot despise small things

- Kind deeds. Mt.25:35-37
- Bible classes. 2 Co.7:1
- Invitation. Jn.1:35...40-42