

Big Trouble In No Time At All

October 11, 2020
Wonderful Mercy Church

Isaiah 55:11

NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.



“The findings [of a recent study by Microsoft Corporation] revealed human attention span has fallen from an average of 12 seconds in the year 2000 to just eight seconds today. Humans now have less of an attention span than a goldfish (nine seconds average).”

[<http://www.medicaldaily.com/human-attention-span-shortens-8-seconds-due-digital-technology-3-ways-stay-focused-333474>]

Exodus 32:1-8a NEW LIVING TRANSLATION

When the people saw how long it was taking Moses to come back down the mountain, they gathered around Aaron. “Come on,” they said, “make us some gods who can lead us. We don’t know what happened to this fellow Moses, who brought us here from the land of Egypt.”

Exodus 32:1-8a NEW LIVING TRANSLATION

² So Aaron said, “Take the gold rings from the ears of your wives and sons and daughters, and bring them to me.” ³ All the people took the gold rings from their ears and brought them to Aaron. ⁴ Then Aaron took the gold, melted it down, and molded it into the shape of a calf. When the people saw it, they exclaimed, “O Israel, these are the gods who brought you out of the land of Egypt!”

Exodus 32:1-8a NEW LIVING TRANSLATION

⁵ Aaron saw how excited the people were, so he built an altar in front of the calf. Then he announced, “Tomorrow will be a festival to the LORD!” ⁶ The people got up early the next morning to sacrifice burnt offerings and peace offerings. After this, they celebrated with feasting and drinking, and they indulged in pagan revelry.

Exodus 32:1-8a NEW LIVING TRANSLATION

⁷ The LORD told Moses, “Quick! Go down the mountain! Your people whom you brought from the land of Egypt have corrupted themselves. ⁸ How quickly they have turned away from the way I commanded them to live!...”

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About the time we see how long God is taking is about the point at which we take things into our own hands...and things rarely work out for us when we do



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When we are waiting on God, that's when we can get into big trouble in no time at all. And it doesn't seem to matter how much God has done up to that point.

What Have You Done for Us Lately?

- ▶ Ten miraculous plagues that result in Israel's escape from Egypt
- ▶ When leaving Egypt they do so loaded down with the wealth of the Egyptians
- ▶ God parts the Red Sea to make possible their exodus

What Have You Done for Us Lately?

- ▶ They are led by a pillar of cloud by day and a cloud of fire by night
- ▶ They are given manna and quail in the desert
- ▶ God brings forth water from a rock for them to drink
- ▶ They see supernatural weather events at Sinai when Moses ascends to receive the Ten Commandments

Exodus 32:21-24 NEW LIVING TRANSLATION

Finally, Moses turned to Aaron and demanded, “What did these people do to you to make you bring such terrible sin upon them?”

²² “Don’t get so upset, my lord,” Aaron replied. “You yourself know how evil these people are.

Exodus 32:21-24 NEW LIVING TRANSLATION

²³ “They said to me, ‘Make us gods who will lead us. We don’t know what happened to this fellow Moses, who brought us here from the land of Egypt.’ ²⁴ So I told them, ‘Whoever has gold jewelry, take it off.’ When they brought it to me, I simply threw it into the fire—and out came this calf!”

Waiting Is Where the Battles Are Fought

- ▶ **Isaiah 40:31** “But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.” NRSV
- ▶ **Lamentations 3:25** “The Lord is good to those who wait for Him...” HCSB

Waiting: The Tie That Binds

“Wait” in Isaiah 40:31 and Lamentations 3:25 is the Hebrew word KAVAH: “to bind together (by twisting)”

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