



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard  
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500  
blr@raremaps.com

## [ Moses Smashing the 10 Commandments / Worshipping The Golden Calf ]

**Stock#:** 96594  
**Map Maker:** Schedel  
**Date:** 1493  
**Place:** Nuremberg  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 9 x 15 inches (with text)  
**Price:** \$ 475.00



### Description:

Striking image of Moses at the bottom of Mt. Sinai, with the smashed tablets of the law at his feet, watching the children of Israel worship the golden calf.

The German text translates as follows:

*At this time, the children of Israel made for themselves a molten calf in the manner of the Egyptians (who worshiped their king Apis). For while Moses tarried with the Lord on the mountain, the people spoke to Aaron and demanded that he make for them gods to worship and to go before them. And when Aaron resisted them, they threatened him (as the story goes) with spears. Out of fear, Aaron*



---

**[ Moses Smashing the 10 Commandments / Worshipping The Golden Calf ]**

*said, 'Take the golden jewelry of your wives and children.' Once they had given these to him, he fashioned a molten calf from them. And the people declared, 'These are your gods, O Israel, that have brought you out of the land of Egypt.' And Aaron built an altar and declared a feast for the next day. They rose up early and made sacrifices and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play (that is, to worship).*

*The Lord then said to Moses, 'Go down; your people have committed idolatry. Let me destroy them.' But Moses replied, 'Lord, I beg you, restrain your anger, lest the Egyptians say he deceitfully brought them out to kill them in the mountains and wipe them from the face of the earth.' When the Lord relented, Moses descended and carried with him stone tablets written with the finger of God. Joshua ran to meet him and said, 'There's the noise of war in the camp.' But Moses replied, 'It's the sound of singing.' And when he came closer, he saw the calf and the dancing, and he was angry and threw the tablets down, breaking them. After hearing Aaron's defense and explanation regarding the creation of the calf, Moses burned it, ground it to powder, scattered it on water, and made the Israelites drink it. The same powder appeared on the beards of those who had worshiped the calf. He then commanded the Levites to take their swords and to kill all those marked with the powder. Many thousands died that day.*

On the verso are images of the the creation of the "Table for the Bread of Faces" or "Table for the Bread of the Presence." This is the Acacia wood table created following the burning of the Golden Calf. The table itself had a specific function. It held the "Showbread" or "Bread of the Presence," which consisted of twelve loaves, representing the twelve tribes of Israel. These loaves were always present in the Tabernacle and were replaced with fresh bread weekly.

The german text below translates as follows:

*At that time, the Israelites made a molten calf in the Egyptian manner. While Moses lingered on the mountain with the Lord, the people told Aaron to craft gods for them. Out of fear, Aaron fashioned a golden calf from their jewelry. They declared this to be the god that led them from Egypt. Aaron made an altar and a feast was announced. They indulged in revelry. The Lord told Moses of their idolatry and wanted to destroy them, but Moses pleaded for mercy, reminding God of His promises. When Moses descended and saw the idolatry, he broke the stone tablets. After Aaron explained, Moses destroyed the calf, made it into a powder, and made the Israelites consume it. Many were killed that day due to their transgressions.*



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman  
Antique Maps Inc.**

7407 La Jolla Boulevard  
La Jolla, CA 92037

[www.raremaps.com](http://www.raremaps.com)

(858) 551-8500  
[blr@raremaps.com](mailto:blr@raremaps.com)

---

**[ Moses Smashing the 10 Commandments / Worshipping The Golden Calf ]**

*Separately, God instructed Moses to craft a table from acacia wood, overlaid with gold. The table stood on four feet, each with golden rings and poles for carrying. The table had a moulding, half on top and half hanging below for decoration. Twelve unleavened bread loaves, symbolizing the tribes of Israel, were placed on it - six on the right and six on the left. Alongside each was a golden dish of incense. Fresh bread was set out every Sabbath. Only priests ate this bread, known as the Showbread. This act was a perpetual reminder for the Israelites.*

**Detailed Condition:**