

Parasha 14: Va'eira (And I Appeared) Shemot/Exodus 6:2 –9:35)

*All Scripture References from The Orthodox Jewish Bible- Referred to as OJB- unless otherwise noted)

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As we go into the second parasha of our sefer/book Shemot/Exodus, it is important to re-emphasize a *'Hebrew idiom'* of the sages of Yisrael. We have looked at this before.

Ma'aseh avot siman le'vanim...
The deeds of the fathers, are signposts to the children

The study of the Torah is especially important for each generation, because the things we read that have happened *'will happen again'*. In other words, the movings of YHWH are *'cyclical'* not *'linear'*. (Kohelet/Ecclesiastes 1:9) The principles we are able to study, and in turn *'internalize'*, will help us meet these situations, when they happen in our life.

When it comes to the sefer/book of Shemot/Exodus, we will find invaluable principles. They will guide us who are about to see the judgments of YHWH fall upon the earth, as prophesied in the sefer/book of Hitgalut/Revelation. In fact, Shemot/Exodus and Hitgalut/Revelation are *'sister seferim/books'*. Those who have thrown the books of the TaNaKh/Hebrew Scriptures away [**mistakenly referred to as the Old Testament or Covenant- YHWH has ever only made ONE COVENANT with his nation Yisrael... GIVEN ONCE, RENEWED THREE TIMES- 4 IS THE NUMBER OF MASHIACH... *Announcement coming soon on this teaching**], have unwittingly *'thrown away'* the answers to the *'prophetic words'*, and *'imagery'* contained within the Kethuvim HaNotzrim/Writings of the Nazarenes [**Messianic Scriptures**]

Here in parasha *'Va'eira'*, YHWH is about to come back on the scene in a mighty way. He is going to show His *'sovereignty'* to both the *'Hebrew people'*, and to Pharaoh. YHWH is reintroducing Himself to His people. They have been sojourning in Mitzrayim/Egypt for quite a long period of time. **(215 years)** These *'Hebrews'*, are to become the *'corporate expression'* known as the *'nation of Yisrael'*. They have not seen anything, or heard anything to really encourage their faith, and hope over this period. They have heard from time to time, the promises made to their avot/fathers; Abraham, Yitz'chak/Isaac, and Ya'akov/Jacob. But, the years of abuse by slavery has taken its toll. YHWH, the *'covenant keeping Mighty One'*, is about to show Himself to His people.

Now, regarding Mitzrayim/Egypt, YHWH is going to settle the score. It is in fact, a show of YHWH's *'sovereignty'* over all the so-called *'mighty ones/false gods'* of man. Mitzrayim/Egypt is full of these *'false mighty ones'*. Pharaoh himself is seen as a *'supreme mighty one'* in Mitzrayim/Egypt. He is the one who supposedly keeps all the other *'false mighty ones'* in line.

Well, this is about to change. In this parasha, YHWH will show forth *'His greatness and power'* through His two servants Moshe, and Aharon.

I Am YHWH

In our previous parasha, we saw YHWH giving the *'revelation of His great Name'*. The importance of our learning to *'revere that Name'*, and place our *'complete trusting faithfulness'* in all that Name means, cannot be over emphasized. In our opening verse, we find YHWH re-emphasizing His *'Memorial Name'*. He tells Moshe,

"...I am יהוה (YHWH) (Shemot/Exodus 6:2 The Scriptures Version 1998- added explanation mine)

Whereas before, while Moshe was in the wilderness, it seems that YHWH more, or less side stepped the issue of His Name. Now, He is being completely open about it. He tells Moshe plainly who He is. Why? Because the *'great Name'* of YHWH is always associated with *'mercy'*. It is always used in Scripture, when *'redemption'* is in view. In the sefer/book Wayikra/Leviticus, when Moshe is instructing Am Yisrael about the korbanot/offerings that were to be given, it is always the *'Name of YHWH'*, that is used in association with those instructions. The title *'Elohim/Mighty One'*, is one associated with *'judgment'*. It is never used alone when *'redemption'* is in view. The Name YHWH shows *'His power to redeem'*, and *'deliver'*. It shows, that He is the Mighty One who *'keeps His promises'*. He gives comfort, that He is the ONE who is WITH Moshe, and He will DO that which He has promised. As we are about to see, Moshe was still having some *'trust issues'*. YHWH was mercifully attempting to get Moshe's *'eyes off of himself'*, and onto the ONE who was able to see the plan for Yisrael's deliverance through.

The next verse is interesting. Verse four, in most translations, makes it appear as though the introduction of the *'Memorial Name'* is something new. It seemingly *'intimates'*, that the avot/fathers, Abraham, Yitz'chak/Isaac, and Ya'akob/Jacob did not know that Name. Is that the truth? First, let's quote the verse.

"and I appeared to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, as God Almighty, but {by} My name, LORD [YHWH], I did not make Myself known to them." (Shemot/Exodus 6:3 NASB- definition mine)

In the above verse from the *'New American Standard Bible'*, it *'appears'* that YHWH is saying that He DID NOT make Himself known to the avot/fathers by His *'Memorial Name'*. He instead, only revealed Himself to them as El Shaddai. **[The Lord Almighty/The All Sufficient One]** However, there is *'scriptural proof'*, that Abraham DID call YHWH by His *'Memorial Name'* in B'reshet/Genesis 15 verse 2,

"And Abram said, "O LORD [ADONAI/MASTER] GOD [YHWH]..." (B'reshet/Genesis 15:2a KJV- added emphasis/explanation mine)

In the above fragment, in most English bibles, you have something very interesting happening. It reads *'Lord God...'*, however, in the actual Hebrew it reads... *'O Adonai/Lord YHWH'*. The

'Masoretic Text' from which most 'bible translations' are derived, follows the 'Jewish prohibition' to using the 'Memorial Name'. So, 'God' is substituted for the 'Memorial Name'. However, the 'original text' shows, that it is, in fact, supposed to be YHWH! IT PROVES THAT ABRAHAM DID INDEED CALL UPON THE MEMORIAL NAME.

In verse seven, we further find YHWH 'identifying Himself' to Abraham using the 'Memorial Name',

“And He said to him, “I am the LORD [YHWH] who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess it.” (B’resheet/Genesis 15:7 NASB- added emphasis/explanation mine)

It is apparent, that the avot/fathers DID know YHWH by His 'Memorial Name'. This is why certain newer 'Hebraic Translations' use a 'question mark' at the end of verse 3. It shows that YHWH is asking a 'rhetorical question'.

“And I appeared to Abraham, Yitshaq, and to Ya’aqob, as El Shaddai. And by My Name, יהוה [YHWH], was I not known to them?” (The Scriptures Version 1998- added explanation mine)

It gives us a 'clearer meaning' of the latter part of verse 4 where it is stated, 'but by My name, LORD [YHWH], did I not make Myself known to them?' The understanding is to be found, that while the avot/fathers 'knew' the 'Memorial Name' regarding His 'faithfulness' in 'covenant promise', they DID NOT KNOW IT in the 'fullness' by which it could be experienced 'in redemption'. They were most familiar with YHWH as, 'El Shaddai', the 'All Sufficient One'. It was this aspect of YHWH, as the One who 'miraculously provided' for them, when they faced needs beyond their own natural resources. However, as we said earlier, in regards to the FULLNESS of the 'Memorial Name', as a 'Name of mercy', 'power in redemption', and 'deliverance', this aspect they never knew. This FULLNESS was for the later lineage of their offspring, the 'corporate nation of Yisrael'. YHWH gave the promise that this 'future generation' would indeed 'see', and 'experience' YHWH's 'Memorial Name'. They would know Him in His 'mercy', and REDEMPTIVE POWER. Just as it was promised to avinu/our father Abraham.

“And Hashem [YHWH] said unto Avram, Know of a surety that thy zera [seed] shall be a ger [stranger] in a land not their own, and shall serve them; and they shall AFFLICT them arba me'ot shanah [*Important Note- 400 years- *this was the amount of time from when Yitz'chak/Isaac was weaned, and began to be mocked...AFFLICTED... by Yishma'el/Ishmael- (B’resheet/Genesis 21:8-9) The time of the SOJOURNING of Yisrael is 430 years beginning with the promise of YHWH to Abraham (Genesis 12:1), and ending at the Exodus- the time of Yisrael’s AFFLICTION was 400 years beginning with Yishma’el, and ended also at the Exodus];

And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge; and afterward shall they come out with rechush gadol (great substance).” (B’resheet/Genesis 15:13-14 OJB- explanation/definitions mine)

The one thing we should *'keep in mind'* is, it has been a few hundred years since Yisrael has heard, or experienced anything from their Mighty One. **(215 years since Ya'akov/Jacob came down to Mitzrayim/Egypt with his family to be restored and live with Yosef)** YHWH is about to make His grand entrance back into the lives of Am Yisrael, and into the life of their deliverer, Moshe. He must therefore *'reintroduce'* Himself in such a manner, that will *'awaken their hearts'* to trust Him. Thus He uses the *'Memorial Name'*. In Hebrew, names paint pictures; and by using the *'Memorial Name'*, the picture YHWH wishes to *'internalize in their hearts'* is one of faithfulness, in both *'presence'*, and *'power'*. That Name, expressed by those four letters, יהוה Heh Waw/Vav Heh Yod **[read right to left]**. YHWH, did just that. It meant, *'I am with you, and I will do all that I have promised'*.

Today, we, as a part of the *'regathering/returning scattered/outcast non-Jewish House of Yisrael'*, Yosef/Ephraim, must *'relearn the power'*, and *'importance'* of that Name. The *'redeemed/renewed commonwealth nation of Yisrael'* is about to experience another deliverance...a GREATER EXODUS! We touched on this in last week's parasha Shemot/Names. **[Yirmeyahu/Jeremiah 16:14-15; 23:7-8]** That's why Moshe, and the Torah, are being *'restored'* to us. It's why it is so important for us to again *'restore'* the *'Memorial Name'* in our midst in its *'supremacy'*, and *'utter holiness'*. Each time we use that Name, our faith is charged. We rise to a new level of *'trusting faithfulness'*. There is a *'deep renewed expectation'* in our heart, that ALL that YHWH has *'promised'* about the *'restoration'* of the *'Whole House of Yisrael'*, will be realized in our lives. **(The Jewish house of Yahudah/Judah, and the Non-Jewish house of Yosef/Ephraim)**. How great is YHWH our Mighty One!

The Four Promises Plus One

And I have also heard the groaning of the Bnei [Sons of] Yisroel, whom the Egyptians keep in bondage; and I have remembered My brit (covenant).

Therefore say unto the Bnei [Sons of] Yisroel, I am Hashem [YHWH], and I WILL BRING YOU OUT FROM UNDER THE SIVLOT [BURDENS OF] MITZRAYIM, AND I WILL FREE YOU OUT OF THEIR BONDAGE, AND I WILL REDEEM YOU WITH A STRETCHED OUT ZERO'A [ARM], AND WITH MISHPATIM GEDOLIM [GREAT JUDGMENTS]:

AND I WILL TAKE YOU TO ME FOR A PEOPLE, AND I WILL BE TO YOU ELOHIM [MIGHTY ONE]; and ye shall know that I am Hashem [YHWH] Eloheichem [your Mighty One], which bringeth you out from under the sivlot [burdens of] Mitzrayim [Egypt].

AND I WILL BRING YOU IN UNTO HAARETZ [THE LAND], CONCERNING WHICH I DID LIFT UP MY HAND TO SWEAR TO GIVE IT TO AVRAHAM, TO YITZCHAK [ISAAC], AND TO YA'AKOV [JACOB]; and I will give it to you for a morashah (heritage); I am Hashem [YHWH].” (Shemot/Exodus 6:5-8 OJB- emphasis/definitions mine; 4 promises emphasis mine; 5th promise- emphasis/definitions mine)

YHWH is now about to give the *'four promises'*, that are to be associated with the deliverance He is bringing to His people. Before giving these promises, YHWH again emphasizes who He is. He says, *'I am YHWH'*. He wants Yisrael TO KNOW, that HE IS THE ONE who has come to deliver them. He has come, in response to His COVENANT PROMISES to the avot/fathers. He is WITH them, and He will DO that which He has promised.

Those of us who are recovering the 'Ancient Paths' of Torah. will recognize the 'four promises' YHWH gives within the above passage. They are associated with the celebration of the 'Mo'ed/Appointed Time' of 'Pesach/Passover'. The 'four cups', which are used during the meal, all correspond to these promises. I will list them.

1. I will bring you out (**Heb.- ve'hotze'ti**)
2. I will deliver you (**Heb.- ve'hitzalti**)
3. I will redeem you (**Heb.- ve'ga'alti**)
4. I will take you (**Heb.- ve'la'kach'ti**)

Each of these promises YHWH most surely has fulfilled regarding Yisrael of old. He BROUGHT THEM OUT of Mitzrayim/Egypt. He DELIVERED THEM from the great bondage which they had suffered. He REDEEMED THEM with His great power, and judgments, sparing them through the BLOOD OF THE PESACH LAMBS. Finally, at Mt. Sinai, He TOOK **[BETROTHED]** Yisrael as His wife. Each cup at the Pesach Seder is 'a remembrance' of YHWH's great promises, and worship to Him, for His faithfulness.

However, there is a 'fifth promise', that has a 'fulfillment', that is both 'past' and 'future'. YHWH says in verse 8, 'I will bring you into the land which I swore to give to Abraham, Yitz'chak/Isaac, and Ya'akob/Jacob, and I will give it to you for a possession.' THIS PROMISE HAS NOT BEEN FULLY REALIZED AS YET! It is true, that Yisrael of old did come 'into The Land', but they NEVER fully possessed it. What they NEVER did, the future 'redeemed/restored nation of Yisrael' **[The Whole House of Yisrael- Yahudah/Judah and Yosef/Ephraim]** will! HalleluYAH! That's why we, who have been given grace to see the 'reality of the restoration' of the Whole House, have been awakened. This remnant will lead the way for both 'Jewish', and 'Non-Jewish Yisrael' to see the ultimate fulfillment of this promise. How do we know it will happen? Because it is written at the end of this promise...I AM YHWH! (vs. 8) This is also the reason, that many Pesach Seders include a 'fifth cup', which is traditionally set for the navi/prophet Eliyahu/Elijah. Because it is his 'spirit', anointed by YHWH's 'Ruach HaKodesh/Spirit of Holiness', that will see the Whole House of Yisrael return to Him through the Torah. This return must happen BEFORE our blessed Mashiah returns. (Mal'aki/Malachi 4:6) ***[Brother Yahudah/Judah traditionally sets out an empty chair at the Pesach table with a glass in expectancy for the navi/prophet Eliyahu's/Elijah's appearance. However, many who now celebrate the Mo'ed/Appointed Time of Pesach/Passover, no longer do this. We have come to realize, that at least in spirit, Eliyahu/Elijah has already come, because the regathering of the Whole House of Yisrael has already begun! Mal'aki/Malachi 4:5]**

The Ultimate Sovereignty Of YHWH

Now, when it comes to the judgments that YHWH is about to bring upon Mitzrayim/Egypt, what is the underlying theme? It is found in the fact, that 'each judgment' was set squarely against the 'false mighty ones' revered by the nation of Mitzrayim/Egypt. The Mitzri/Egyptians served a veritable pantheon of 'false mighty ones/gods'. The Nile River was a 'false mighty one'. The animals, insects, and aquatic life were all seen to be ruled over by 'false mighty ones'. Pharaoh himself was viewed by the people, and in his own estimation, to be the 'chief' of all these 'false

mighty ones'. He demanded worship. He saw himself as master over these Hebrews. He held them in obeisance by cruelty, and slavery. The truth was, he could only accomplish this because YHWH *'allowed'* him to do so. The time was fast approaching, when this *'allowance'* would be revoked. YHWH would settle it once and for all. When He was finished, there would be no doubt WHO THE SUPREME MIGHTY ONE IS, and how GLORIOUS is His NAME! (Shemot/Exodus 9:16)

It is interesting, that the *'first three judgments'* were felt equally by the Mitzrim/Egyptians, as well as the Hebrews. Why? Because over the years, the *'line of demarcation'* between the *'ways of Mitzrayim/Egypt'*, and the *'ways of YHWH's people'* had become blurred. They had adopted many of the customs of the land of their captivity. TO THE DEGREE WE PARTAKE OF THE WORLD, AND ITS SPIRIT, WILL BE THE DEGREE THAT WE, AS YHWH'S PEOPLE, WILL SUFFER WITH THEM WHEN JUDGMENT COMES. That's why there *'must be holiness'*. There *'must be separation'* between the *'holy'*, and the *'profane'*; between the *'clean'*, and the *'unclean'*. Thus, we see the *'necessity'* of Torah. The commandments teach us *'how'* to live, and *'where'* to draw the lines between the *'holy'*, and the *'profane'*. Yisrael had forgotten that necessity. So, YHWH *'allowed'* the first three judgments to touch them. IT WAS A WAKE-UP CALL! It was a DELIBERATE ACT ON HIS PART, to *'readjust the inner vision'* of their heart. REPENT/TESHUVAH...RETURN...I AM YHWH!

Beloved, today, we are standing in a global, spiritual dimension, that parallels what we see here in this present parasha of Shemot/Exodus. YHWH is about to judge the world, and all its *'false mighty ones'*. He is also about to *'settle the score'* between the *'false mighty one'* purported by Islam to be Allah. Islam proclaims that Allah alone is god, and he has no son! THIS IS THE EPITOME OF THE SPIRIT OF ANTI-MASHIACH. (1 Yochanon/John 2:22)

The *'Great Tribulation'*, known in Scripture as the time of *'Ya'akov's Troubles'*, is the time, when YHWH will *'settle the score'* with those nations who have sought to destroy His people, Yisrael. It is a time, when once again, He will show His sovereignty over the earth. He will bring judgment upon Hasatan (**may his memory be blotted out forever**), and his kingdom. All the *'false mighty ones'* of mankind will know His wrath. The scourge of Islam, and its Jihad/holy war, will leave nothing untouched in its determination to make Allah ruler, and god over all the earth. However, just as YHWH allowed Pharaoh's power to be *'drawn out'* to its fullness before it was completely destroyed, so Islam is being *'drawn out'* for just such a confrontation. The end result will be the same. THE NAME, AND FAME OF YHWH WILL BE KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE EARTH. Now, is the time to find that *'secret place'* of the Most High. (Tehillim/Psalms 91) For Yisrael of old it was the land of Goshen. For present day Yisrael, both in The Land, and in its *'scattered/dispersed presence'* throughout the whole earth, our *'secret place'* is to be found in *'covenant union'* with our blessed Mashiach Yeshua. **[1 Corinthians 1:30; Colossians 1:26-27; 3:3]** The writings of Rav Sha'ul/Paul, in the Kethuvim HaNotzrim/Writings of the Nazarenes (**Messianic Scriptures**) teach us, that we who have believed upon Yeshua HaMashiach, have been given a *'new vantage'*. We are said to be IN MASHIACH. Our *'secret place'* of deliverance is more than a *'physical place'*. **[The Land/HaAretz of Yisrael]** It is in fact, a COVENANT UNION in spirit with YHWH *'through His Son'*, Yeshua HaMashiach. If we live, and *'walk in the reality'* of this *'conscious union'* **[IN MASHIACH]**, YHWH can literally hide us *'in plain sight'*! To experience His *'keeping power'* requires that we RETURN TO HIM, according to the *'Ancient Paths'* of Torah, guided by His Ruach HaKodesh/Spirit of Holiness. Those who return to the *'Hebraic understanding'* of YHWH as revealed in the Torah, will be *'hidden'* during the

judgments which are about to fall. YHWH IS SUPREME. Just as we read in our Torah portion, when all is said and done, it is the NAME OF YHWH that will be left standing, and exalted. His glory will fill the earth. Amein!

“For Thou hast been a refuge for me, and a migdal oz (tower of strength) from the enemy.

*I will abide in Thy ohel [tent] forever; I will take refuge in the covert of Thy wings. Selah.”
(Tehillim/Psalms 61:3-4 OJB- definitions mine)*

We say the following blessing as we continue each week’s study of Torah...

*Chazak u’Baruch...
Strength and Blessing!*