



**Taking Messiah Yeshua and Torah to the World!**

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**Message 1-16-10**  
**VaEra-And I Appeared**  
**Exodus 6:2-9:35**  
**Ezekiel 28:25-29:21**  
**Matthew 26:63-66**

**Introduction**

The title of this Parashah, in God's second appearance to Moses, comes from the verse, "I appeared (Va'era) to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob," a dramatic emergence that contains a stunning admission, "I have remembered My covenant."<sup>1</sup>

**Exodus 7:1-3**

**1** Then the LORD said to Moses, "See, I make you *as* God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron shall be your prophet. **2** "You shall speak all that I command you, and your brother Aaron shall speak to Pharaoh that he let the sons of Israel go out of his land. **3** "But I will harden Pharaoh's heart that I may multiply My signs and My wonders in the land of Egypt.

The Lord would make Moses as God to Pharaoh. That is a pretty steep order when you think about it. If Moses were not the man who would give his life over to the Master of all this could have gone bad in a very short time considering the power God was giving to Moses and Aaron. Aaron would be Moses' prophet as he would become the first High Priest of Israel standing one step below his brother.

Throughout Scripture Moses and Aaron are linked together as a pair. When you think of Moses you tend to think about the Torah and Aaron. When you think about Aaron you usually turn to Moses because Aaron was usually seen in the shadow of his famous brother. Though Aaron would become High Priest we find him linked to the Golden Calf, to challenging Moses with Miriam and his two sons dying for disobeying God.

It could not have been that easy to live in the shadow of his brother and yet in Scripture Aaron seems to be content in this role even though Miriam seemed to want more for him. It might have been because Aaron was older than Moses by three years while Miriam was older than both of her brothers. Aaron hears the voice of God the same as Moses did but apparently not as much as Moses did and it would appear that later God speaks to Moses about things than concern Aaron. It would seem that Aaron loses his special bond to God for some reason or maybe for one of the reasons I stated before. In many ways we have done the same thing in our

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<sup>1</sup> From Torah with a Twist of Humor

own relationships with the Holy One of Israel. Do we have encounters with God like that of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob? How about Joseph or Moses?

Are we more like Aaron and Miriam, or even Jacob's other 11 sons? Would we bend to the will of the people if they wanted a Golden Calf or something similar because we feared for our lives? How would we react if God told us we were going to go to Pharaoh and tell him to let our people go and then hear God say He was going to harden Pharaoh's heart? How many of us could stay the course? We might jump right up and immediately say we would stand up for God but in the harsh reality that is becoming the world scene God has been relegated to the last row in the stadium way up in the nosebleed section. We put God away six days of the week and only bring Him out on Shabbat and usually not for the full day. Worldly things take the place of God in our everyday lives that run Sunday though Friday.

**1 Timothy 4:7** But reject profane and old wives' fables, and exercise yourself toward godliness. **8** For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.

**2 Timothy 2:19** Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Let everyone who names the name of Messiah depart from iniquity."

**Titus 2:11** For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, **12** teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, **13** looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Yeshua the Messiah, **14** who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works. **15** Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.

When we submit ourselves to our Redeemer, Yeshua, we are imitating Him as He submitted Himself to the will of the His Father. As Yeshua gave up His life in order that we might have redemption we are also surrendering ourselves so that we might receive the gift that He is giving us. We are to die to self so our old natures can be replaced by a new one – one that shines forth with the life of our Messiah. As we live in Him He lives in us bringing us the ways of the Father. He did as Father asked of Him and now we are being asked to walk the same road He has already travelled.

It is not easy being a follower of Yeshua particularly if you are doing as He has asked and not as others have interpreted Him. Yeshua was Jewish born into the line of Judah, the kings of Israel, the line of David. He lived as a Jew and not as a Christian because that was who He was and still is. He has not gone through some type of conversion that changed Him from a Jew into a Christian. I believe He might find Himself more at home in the synagogues of today or Torah observant Messianic congregations who are lifting up the name of the Lord in praise, worship, and prayer. Would He even recognize the Church or would He ask what is this?

**Matthew 7:21** "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven *will enter*. **22** "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' **23** "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE TORAHLESSNESS.'" [Psalm 6:8]

**Psalm 6:8** Depart from me, all you workers of iniquity; For the LORD has heard the voice of my weeping.

I have been drawn to Scriptures like these, as of late, because I believe they speak to us of those who believe they are doing the work of God but they are not and they deluded themselves into thinking how righteous they are because of the spiritual battles they have won for the Lord. The only thing they have won is a one way ticket to the outer darkness where there is the weeping and gnashing of teeth.

**Matthew 8:11** "And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. **12** "But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

The sons of the kingdom will be cast out into the outer darkness. That statement should make us tremble where we stand and bring us into a closer relationship with the Holy One of Israel. We have been bickering over the little things for so long we have lost sight of the bigger picture here and that is we have gambled away our inheritance just as Esau did when he gave his up for a bowl of lentil stew. The Church claims that it is the Bride of Messiah and Spiritual Israel to boot. They say physical Israel is the state of Israel and the Jewish people, so they replace the Jewish people by casting them into the outer darkness where they themselves will wind up not those they would cast judgment on.

How can the Church be the bride when most of them cast Torah aside? The wedding feast has the bride, bridegroom, guests, and servants or servers. Is everyone to be the bride? We know there will be one Bridegroom – the Messiah Yeshua. Who then are the guests and the servants? They are all in attendance at the wedding celebration but only some were the bride. Where do we wind up in the mix of things? We should desire to be at the wedding celebration no matter what place we are given. **Oh but to be a servant in the Kingdom of our God!**

#### **Ezekiel 28:25-26**

**25** 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "When I gather the house of Israel from the peoples among whom they are scattered, and will manifest My holiness in them in the sight of the nations, then they will live in their land which I gave to My servant Jacob. **26** "They will live in it securely; and they will build houses, plant vineyards and live securely when I execute judgments upon all who scorn them round about them. Then they will know that I am the LORD their God.'"

When He gathers the house of Israel from the peoples where they were scattered and brings them back to the Promised Land – the Land they were exiled from because of their sin. The prophet Ezekiel lived among the Jewish people in exile in the land of Babylon. When he is talking about the house of Israel he is talking about the **whole** house of Israel – all twelve tribes united into one nation. This is an important concept to keep in mind when thinking about being part of only Judah or Ephraim. They are two parts of a whole and one without the other is incomplete and cannot function properly the same as a husband cannot function properly without his wife and vice versa. The two are part of the whole and united as one. Israel is the same way because without its two halves it cannot operate in the manner God intended them to.

Perhaps it was through this separation that God hoped that Judah and Ephraim would see they were meant to be one in a way that Adam came to see that he had no companion as the rest of the animals did when they came before him to be named in the Garden.

**Genesis 2:20** And the man gave names to all the cattle and to the birds of the sky and to all the wild beasts; but for Adam no fitting helper was found. **21** So the LORD God cast a deep sleep upon the man; and, while he slept, He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh at that spot. **22** And the LORD God fashioned the rib that He had taken from the man into a woman; and He brought her to the man. **23** Then the man said, "This one at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh. This one shall be called Woman, for from man was she taken." **24** Hence a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, so that they become one flesh.

**Genesis 2:20** The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper **as his partner**. **21** So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. **22** And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. **23** Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken." **24** Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. [NRS]

Man came to see that he had no companion as the animals he had just named did. When he saw this God put man to sleep and removed a rib from his side and closed up the man's side and formed a woman out of the rib of man.

**6763** צֵלָע tsela` {tsay-law'} or צֵלָה (fem.) tsal`ah {tsal-aw'}

**Meaning:** side, rib, beam, rib (of man), rib (of hill, ridge, etc), side-chambers or cells (of temple structure), plank, board (of cedar or fir), leaves (of door), side (of ark)

As you can see from the Hebrew word that while the word used for rib can be translated to mean several different things when it comes to the man and the woman it was a rib that the Creator used from man to show Adam that the woman was meant to be his partner in life. The New Revised Version translation goes a step further than the rest by adding in **as his partner** which is what the woman was meant to be. After the fall she was to be in submission to her husband and her desire would be for him. This did not make her any less an influence than from the beginning because we see women influencing men throughout the Bible.

While in later times women were seen as being less than men they were always meant to partners to men and to help them as the man would help them. Granted some of the things Biblical wives counseled their husbands into doing did not turn out the way they were hoped for but we must remember that the husbands went along with the advice of their wives. Chava persuaded Adam to eat of the fruit that brought the punishment of God down on the heads of mankind until the end but Adam listened and went along with his wife. Sarah counseled Abraham to sleep with her maidservant Hagar, and Ishmael was born, who became the father of the Arab nations. The stories go on and on but the die is cast from the beginning. Only through Yeshua can this cycle be broken and we have the option in our hands to turn from the ways of our fathers if we choose to do so.

The end result is that as man and woman unite to become one, so too, must Israel do the same thing. Judah and Ephraim along with their companions from the nations must unite to become one nation in the hand of God who brought them into existence in the first place. In that day He will call us back to His Land where we will live as a unified people with a name He will give us that brings with it new life found through the Torah – the instruction manual from God to man.

### **Matthew 26:63-66**

**63** But Yeshua kept silent. And the high priest said to Him, "I adjure You by the living God, that You tell us whether You are the Messiah, the Son of God." **64** Yeshua said to him, "You have said it *yourself*, nevertheless I tell you, hereafter you will see THE SON OF MAN SITTING AT THE RIGHT HAND OF POWER, and COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN." [Psalm 110:1, Daniel 7:13] **65** Then the high priest tore his robes and said, "He has blasphemed! What further need do we have of witnesses? Behold, you have now heard the blasphemy; **66** what do you think?" They answered, "He deserves death!"

Yeshua's **crime** was one of blasphemy not of claiming to be the king of the Jews as the Jewish leaders claimed before Pilate. It was not by His confession but by the affirmation by the High Priest. By affirming Yeshua as Messiah, the Son of God the High Priest had confirmed through his own lips Psalm 110:1 and Daniel 7:13. Yeshua was the Son of the Holy One of Israel embraced by the people but not by the leadership particularly those of the Sadducees, who did not believe in the resurrection of the dead and only in the Torah and the Torah alone. It would be after His ascension to the Father then Pharisees and Sadducees would become followers of Yeshua though by their own rules and not through the teachings of Yeshua.

We have modern Pharisees and Sadducees who would rather follow their own teachings than those of the One who brought them salvation. Whether Jewish, Christian, or Messianic they prowl around like wolves waiting to devour any who would come their way.

**1 Peter 5:8** Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

Satan is a spirit just as God is but God is so when we say the spirit is leading us we must test the spirit against the Word of God to see which spirit is trying to lead us. God will use Satan to test us just as He did Job but Job held onto his faith even when he lost everything. Because of his faith God gave him back all that he had and even more. Maybe we won't receive the blessings that Job did and then again we might. If you don't will that cause you to turn away from the Redeemer Yeshua? It is my prayer that you won't and I urge you to remain strong in the power of the Lord so you can stand up against the time of testing that is coming.

**Psalm 30:11** You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; You have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness, **12** To the end that *my* glory may sing praise to You and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks to You forever.

***Just after she is fired, the maid takes \$5 from her purse and throws it to Fido, the family dog. "Why'dya do that?" asks her former employer. "Well, ma'am," she replies, "I never forget a friend, so I just wanted to thank Fido for all the times he helped me clean the dishes!"***<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> From Torah with a Twist of Humor

May the Lord bless you and yours... *Mordecai Silver*

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