



Message 1-24-09
VaEra-And I Appeared
Exodus 6:2-9:35
Ezekiel 28:25-29:21
Acts 3:22-26

Introduction

In the second portion of the book of Exodus God has heard the groans of the people of Israel, their suffering and their pain, and is determined to set them free.

Exodus 7:1

1 So the LORD said to Moses: "See, I have made you as God to Pharaoh, and Aaron your brother shall be your prophet.

The implications of what this passage is saying should not be lost on us. Please keep in mind that despite the Egyptians worshipping different gods they also worshipped Pharaoh as a god and this is what Pharaoh believed himself to be. So, what God was doing was to raise Moses up to an equal level to Pharaoh so that Pharaoh would have to view Moses as being different than the rest of Israel or for that matter anyone Pharaoh had ever encountered before.

In many ways this would explain why God assigned Aaron to be Moses' spokesman. He was providing Moses with a level playing field with Pharaoh's magicians. God was setting up Moses before Pharaoh and all of Egypt and the world as being equal to and ultimately over Pharaoh and all the gods of Egypt. Egypt has always been a mini picture of the world at large. What would happen to Egypt would one day be mirrored throughout the world?

The world has its share of its own gods in many different forms despite what many people would say or think. While we speak about the three monotheistic faiths the truth of the matter is that Judaism does not accept that Christianity is a true monotheistic faith because they believe that there are three Gods verses the one Jewish God. They have a very hard time accepting this premise which is a

major stumbling block to more Jews coming to faith in Yeshua. Of course we know that Yeshua Himself is a stumbling block as well because of the way Christianity has presented Him to Judaism.

There are Jews who cooperate with Christians for a common goal and they will show unity but the bottom line is they have very little interfaith dialogue. It is a case of you stay on your side of the line and we will stay on our side.

1 Corinthians 1:22 For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; **23** but we preach Messiah crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, **24** but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Messiah the power of God and the wisdom of God.

To the Jewish people Yeshua would be a stumbling being that He is the Son of God and God come in the flesh. To the Greeks or to those who need to rationalize He is foolishness. We know we have those in our society at present because we have heard them make statements that religion is for the weak-minded. I do not believe in religion but in faith. Faith is the connection between us and God because it reduces God down to His common denominator which is Spiritual. God the Father is Spirit. Does this mean we will never be able to see the Father? I don't believe so because we are told in the book of Revelation that the Father and Son will take up residence in Jerusalem when all things have been set right.

Revelation 22:3 And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. **4** They shall see His face, and His name *shall be* on their foreheads. **5** There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.

In verse four we are told that we will be able to see the face of God. Is this speaking about Yeshua or the Father or both since they will both be ruling from the throne in Jerusalem yet we are told elsewhere that Yeshua will turn the throne back over to His Father once all of the Almighty's enemies have been put down.

1 Corinthians 15:23 But each one in his own order: Messiah the firstfruits, afterward those *who are* Messiah's at His coming. **24** Then *comes* the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. **25** For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. **26** The last enemy *that* will be destroyed is death.

Well it does not quite say that He will hand over the throne to His Father but one would think that to give up a kingdom would also included the throne from which He ruled? I think that there will be a change where God the Father will be seated upon His throne with His Son by His side as it has been from the beginning. This is what God was doing when He made Moses a God to Pharaoh. Moses would be the hand of God. Moses is a type and shadow of the Messiah and in other situations he is a type and shadow of the Father.

You might be asking yourselves "How can he make this assumption?" Because Moses, in many cases, as the Children of Israel begin their wanderings in the Wilderness sets in place the Aaronic Priesthood and the responsibilities of the Levites to the Priests. Moses is a Levite and yet he is left out of all of this except to teach the Priests what they are to do and the Levites what they are to do. He also teaches Israel about the covenant of Torah between them and God. He stands as a bridge

between the Children of Israel and God as a type and Shadow of Yeshua who would bring Israel to the Promised Land but it would be left to another to take them into the promise.

Moses had the power of God at his asking and he did not lord it over the Children of Israel even when others tried to take it away from him. He prayed for his enemies but when it was time for God to step in and do what was needed Moses stepped aside to allow God to intervene. Other times Moses intervened on behalf of Israel when God would become angry with them over their lack of faith. Faith is the issue not religion. Religion is a whole other thing altogether. There are many religions in the world today and there were many religions throughout history. The Bible records many of these and while we may not be doing pagan sacrifices as they did in ancient times if our whole being is not focused on the Almighty then we will find ourselves in trouble.

God should be everything to us. He should be the first thing we think of in the morning and the last thing we think of at night. One way to do this is to recite the Shema. In doing this you will be joining with thousands of your Jewish brothers and sisters around the world as well as with many who are not Jewish but have chosen to follow this road. ***Shema Yisrael, Adonai Elohaynu Adonai Echad. Baruch Name Kavod Malchuto LeOlam Vaed. Hear O Israel the Lord our God the Lord is one. Praised be the Name of His glorious Kingdom forever.***

This is not the full Shema but it is enough to allow us to give thanks to our Creator when we first awake and as we go to sleep. Many Jews have recited this prayer as they lay dying or on the way to death at the hands of the world. We who are Jewish Believers in Messiah and we who are not Jewish need to stand by our non-Believing brethren as the day of the Lord approaches. If we come away from the story of the Exodus it should be that when the Day of the Lord comes tribulation will fall upon the earth as it did once upon Egypt. Will we follow the Messiah as Israel followed Moses or will we choose another way?

Ezekiel 29:21

21 'In that day I will cause the horn of the house of Israel to spring forth, and I will open your mouth to speak in their midst. Then they shall know that I *am* the LORD.' "

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Meaning: a horn

Origin: from an unused word

Usage: hill(1), horn(24), horns(46), might(1), rays(1), strength(1), tusks(1).

“In that day I will cause the horn of the house of Israel to spring forth.” I am wondering why they did not capitalize the word horn because I believe this passage is Messianic in nature and horn is referring to the Messiah who is compared to a horn many times in Scripture. The horn is used to call Israel together to go out to war against its enemies and it symbolizes might. Maybe the picture of a horn would have been better to symbolize Israel than the Star of David? Now before you rush off to crucify me just bear with me. The Magen David or Star or Shield of David identifies the Jewish people but the Biblical symbol for Israel is the menorah which represents the Spirits of the Almighty.

There is a day coming when the Mighty One of Israel will return to take up His Father's banner and place upon us the mark or sign of the Most High God or *El Elyon*. We should be looking towards

this day when the Father will release His Son to come back for His Bride – the congregation of Philadelphia.

Revelation 3:7 "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, 'These things says He who is holy, He who is true, "He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens": **8** "I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name. **9** "Indeed I will make *those* of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie -- indeed I will make them come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you. **10** "Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth. **11** "Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown.

Verse 10 is one that many in the Messianic Movement have skipped over and not realized what it is Yeshua is saying to this congregation. ***"I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth."*** He will keep a group from the hour of testing which could be interpreted as the time of the tribulation. As God pours out His wrath upon the earth a group will be kept safe. Is this speaking about the event the Church defines as the *rapture*? It would be almost a safe guess that it is but this passage would not line up with how Christianity views this teaching because in their understanding all the Church will be taken out of here. That is not what we read here in Revelation 3:7-11. In Revelation Chapter's 2 and 3 about seven congregation's of Believer's whom the Messiah is speaking about. They are all Believer's but they come up short in the day of reckoning because they will be left behind to go through the tribulation, the great tribulation and the wrath of God. Even the congregation in Smyrna, who He commends almost to the same level as Philadelphia, will have to go through the time of testing.

The reality of this should not be lost on us as we wait for the coming of the Messiah. He is the Horn and the might of Israel and will gather His people from the four corners of the earth. At the wedding banquet of the Lamb of God we will find three groups of people: the bride, the guests and the servants. Which group will you find yourself in? How do we know what it is that the Almighty is looking for in the bride He has chosen for His Son? For me I want to hang onto the Horn of the Holy One of Israel and be with Him throughout eternity. I do not desire to be thrown into the lake of fire, to be left in the earth to sleep forever or to pass before the Great White Throne in the Day of Judgment only to find out I have come up short.

Acts 3:22-26

22 "Moses said, **'THE LORD GOD WILL RAISE UP FOR YOU A PROPHET LIKE ME FROM YOUR BRETHREN; TO HIM YOU SHALL GIVE HEED [Deuteronomy 18:15, 18:18]** to everything He says to you. **23** 'And it will be that every soul that does not heed that prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people.' **24** "And likewise, all the prophets who have spoken, from Samuel and *his* successors onward, also announced these days. **25** "It is you who are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant which God made with your fathers, saying to Abraham, **'AND IN YOUR SEED ALL THE FAMILIES OF THE EARTH SHALL BE BLESSED.'** [Genesis 22:18] **26** "For you first, God raised up His Servant and sent Him to bless you by turning every one of you from your wicked ways."

Moses knew the Messiah Yeshua. He and all of those, who were servants of the Almighty, who were before Yeshua knew about Him and many, knew Him because the Torah, the Prophets, and the Psalms spoke about Him.

Luke 24:44 Then He said to them, "These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Torah of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me." **45** And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. **46** Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Messiah to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, **47** "and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. **48** "And you are witnesses of these things.

Verse 45 is very telling for us: *And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.* He gave them the understanding to know what the Scriptures had to say about Him. Now we come back to a point I have made in many of my other teachings and that is what Scriptures is He talking about? There **was not** a New Testament! So the Scriptures being spoken about have to be the Torah and the Prophets along with the Psalms. The revelation of the Messiah was to be found in the Torah and the Prophets. It was not found in the four Gospels or in the letters of Paul and the writings of the other authors of the Apostolic Scriptures. They did not exist yet.

I am not trying to throw out the Apostolic Scriptures, by any means, because I feel it enhances and helps our understanding of the rest of the Bible but it should not be our only source of understanding. It should be an extension of our study of the Torah and the Prophets.

Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose.

Here we are at the crux of this week's Torah, Haftarah and Apostolic Scripture portions. Moses was called by the Almighty to lead His people to the Promised Land. We have been called by our Creator back to the Promised Land to dwell in it securely with the Father and the Son as the source of our light because they are the lamps and the light that will shine upon those of us who are called according to **His purpose**. Moses was called for a purpose to bring the Almighty's Word to a people He had called out to be His own. Our Moses is the Messiah Yeshua who will lead us out of darkness and into the light of the Almighty's Kingdom.

Pray that you are part of Philadelphia and not part of the other seven congregations. If you are, pray for His strength to bring you through to see Him on the other side.

You made me free, free to choose between good and evil, between generosity and selfishness; often I feel this freedom as a burden, a weight heavy to bear. Help me to see it as a privilege, one granted to those You made in Your image.

Tony Robinson at www.devoted.to/Torah (sign up)

Mark R. Ensign at mrensign@arn.net (request to be added to list)

Ardelle Brody [abrody@mchsi.com](posted on Mordecai's website along with his Torah commentary-an excellent woman's perspective)

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

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