

Prayer Focus

January 11 - 17, 2021

"And I appeared" – Parashat Va'eira

The parashah is the weekly portion of Scripture taken from the Torah (the five books of Moses) that the Jewish community reads through the year. Each portion has a name. The name of this week's portion is Va'eira, meaning **"and I appeared"**.

^{*2}God spoke further to Moses and said to him, 'I am ADONAI. ³I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob, as El Shaddai. <u>Yet by My Name, ADONAI, did I</u> <u>not make Myself known to them.</u> ⁴I also established My covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land of their pilgrimage where they journeyed. ⁵Furthermore, I have heard the groaning of Bnei-Yisrael, whom the Egyptians are keeping in bondage. So I have remembered my covenant. ⁶Therefore say to Bnei-Yisrael: <u>I am ADONAI, I will bring you</u> out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. <u>I will deliver you</u> from their bondage, and <u>I will redeem you</u> with and outstretched arm and with great judgments. ⁷<u>I will take you to Myself</u> as a people, and <u>I will be your God</u>. You will know that I am ADONAI your God, who brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. ⁸So I will bring you into the land that I swore to give to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob, and give it to you as an inheritance. I am ADONAI." Exodus 6:2-8 (beginning of Parashat Va'eira)

Moses spoke all that was commanded him to speak from the Lord.

"Yet, Pharaoh's heart was hardened. So he did not listen to them—just as ADONAI had said." Exodus 7:13

"But when Pharaoh saw that there was relief, he hardened his heart and did not listen to them—just as Adonai had said." Exodus 8:11

"But Pharaoh hardened his heart this time also, and did not let the people go." Exodus 8:28

"But when Pharaoh saw that the rain, the hail and the thunder had ceased, he increased his sin and hardened his heart, both he and his servants. So Pharaoh's heart was hardened and he did not let Bnei-Yisrael go—just as ADONAI had said by Moses' hand." Exodus 9:34-35.

We must not allow the hardness of "Pharaoh's" heart in this moment to dissuade us from the promises that God has made to us or what He has already accomplished.

What do I mean by "Pharaoh's hard heart"?

Pharaoh's hard heart is - All voices that tell you that you will never be free, and God does not see. The voice that seeks to enslave your mind, body, and spirit to toil, discouragement, doubt, fear, and groveling in the dust.

God, Himself, came down and appeared as Jesus Christ. Yeshua Hamashiach. He came down of His own accord, to bring us out from under our burdens, to deliver us out of our bondage, to redeem us, to take us unto Himself and be our God.

"But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, <u>to</u> <u>those who believe in His name</u>: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." John 1:12-13

Jesus is ALIVE! He lives IN you. He LOVES you. His Resurrection Power is Within you. Do not doubt the victory you have been given and are called to walk in because "Pharaoh's heart" is hardened. God is never late, He appeared at the right time to deliver the children of Israel out of Egypt – even though they were not looking for Him and did not know when He would appear to save.

We are waiting for the restoration of all things. See Acts 3:21

"¹Oh, that You would rend the heavens! That You would come down! That the mountains might shake at Your presence—²As fire burns brushwood, As fire causes water to boil—**To make Your name known to Your adversaries, That the nations may tremble at Your presence!** ³When You did awesome things for which we did not look, You came down, The mountains shook at Your presence. ⁴For since the beginning of the world Men have not heard nor perceived by the ear, Nor has the eye seen any God besides You, Who acts for the one who waits for Him." Isaiah 64:1-4

Wait, wait on the Lord!

"Wait on the LORD; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait I say, on the LORD!" Psalm 27:14 ⁴⁷Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass. ⁸Cease from anger, forsake wrath; Do not fret—it only causes harm. ⁹For evildoers shall be cut off; But those who wait on the Lord, They shall inherit the earth." Psalm 37:7-9

"I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, And in His word I do hope." Psalm 130:5

"Show me Your ways, O LORD; Teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day." Psalm 25:4-5

^{*5}My soul, wait silently for God alone, For my expectation is from Him. ⁶He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defense; I shall not be moved. ⁷In God is my salvation and my glory; The rock of my strength, And my refuge, is in God. ⁸Trust in Him at all times, you people; Pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us." Psalm 62:5-8

<u>Pray</u>

- Abba, we thank you that you are trustworthy, faithful, and true. We thank you that you hear our prayers, and even our innermost thoughts. Purify our hearts, oh Lord, that You, and You alone would be our Rock, our Refuge, our Strength, and our Hope.
- Lord, our expectation is in You, and our desire is that Your name would be glorified and magnified throughout all the earth. Make Your name known, Oh Lord, we pray, in Jesus' Name.
- Thank you, Oh Lord, that you have placed your Holy Spirit seal upon us and that You reside within us. Help us to fully know and understand Your great love for us. "We pray that You would grant us, according to the riches of Your glory, to be strengthened with might through Your Spirit within us, that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith; and that we, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that we may be filled with all the fullness of God." See Eph. 3:14-19
- Abba, we pray that your body, the body of Messiah, would be unified. That we would know and understand our personal callings and giftings from You, and that we would use them to edify the body and be lights in this world. We pray that we would speak the truth in love.
- We thank You, Lord, that You see the oppression, that You hear our cries, that You know our sorrows, and we long to see You appear. As we share Your testimony, Lord Jesus, we pray that You would confirm Your word through

accompanying miracles and that You would be glorified, and Your true character made known.

- Abba, we believe your word, the salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; You are our strength in the time of trouble. You shall help us and deliver us, You shall deliver us from the wicked, and save us, because we trust in You. Psalm 37:39-40
- Give us one heart and one way, oh Lord, that we would fear You forever, for our good and for our children. Amen. See Jeremiah 32:39