

Va'era
"And I appeared"

Torah: Exodus 6:2-9:35
Haftarah: Ezekiel 28:25 - 29:21
Brit Chadasha: Romans 9:14-17; 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1

All verses are from the Tree of Life Bible

TORAH:

Exodus 6:2

2 God spoke further to Moses and said to him, "I am *Adonai*.

3 I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob, as *El Shaddai*. Yet by My Name, *Adonai*, I made Myself known to them.

4 I also established My covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land of their pilgrimage where they journeyed.

5 Furthermore, I have heard the groaning of *Bnei-Yisrael*, whom the Egyptians are keeping in bondage. So I have remembered My covenant.

6 Therefore say to *Bnei-Yisrael*: I am *Adonai*, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. I will deliver you from their bondage, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments.

7 I will take you to Myself as a people, and I will be your God. You will know that I am *Adonai* your God, who brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.

8 So 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*."

9 Moses spoke this way to *Bnei-Yisrael*, but they did not listen to him because of their broken spirit and cruel bondage.

10 So *Adonai* told Moses,

11 “Go, speak to Pharaoh king of Egypt, so that will he let *Bnei-Yisrael* go out of his land.”

12 But Moses said to *Adonai*, “*Bnei-Yisrael* have not listened to me. So how would Pharaoh listen to me—I, who have uncircumcised lips?”

13 Then *Adonai* spoke to Moses and to Aaron and gave to them a charge for *Bnei-Yisrael* and Pharaoh king of Egypt, to bring *Bnei-Yisrael* out of the land of Egypt.

14 These are the heads of their father’s houses. The sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel were Hanoch, Pallu, Hezron and Carmi. These are the families of Reuben.

15 The sons of Simeon were Jemuel, Jamin, Ohad, Jachin, Zohar and Shaul the son of a Canaanite woman. These are the families of Simeon.

16 These are the names of the sons of Levi according to their generations: Gershon, Kohath and Merari. Levi lived 137 years.

17 The sons of Gershon were Libni and Shimej, according to their families.

18 The sons of Kohath were Amram, Izhar, Hebron and Uzziel. Kohath lived 133 years.

19 The sons of Merari were Mahli and Mushi. These are the families of the Levites according to their generations.

20 Amram married Jochebed, his father’s sister, and she bore him Aaron and Moses. Amram lived 137 years.

21 The sons of Izhar were Korah, Nepheg and Zichri.

22 The sons of Uzziel were Mishael, Elzaphan and Sithri.

23 Aaron married Elisheba daughter of Amminadav, sister of Nahshon, and she bore him Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar.

24 The sons of Korah were Assir, Elkanah and Abiasaph. These are the families of the Korahites.

25 Eleazar, Aaron’s son, married one of the daughters of Putiel and she bore him Phinehas. These are the heads of the ancestral houses of the Levites according to their families.

26 These are the same Aaron and Moses to whom *Adonai* said, “Bring *Bnei-Yisrael* out from the land of Egypt according to their divisions.”

27 These are the ones that spoke to Pharaoh king of Egypt, to bring *Bnei-Yisrael* out from Egypt. These are that same Moses and Aaron.

28 So it happened on the day when *Adonai* spoke to Moses in the land of Egypt,

29 that *Adonai* said to Moses, “I am *Adonai*. Tell Pharaoh king of Egypt everything that I tell to you.”

30 But Moses said to *Adonai*, “I am of uncircumcised lips, so how would Pharaoh listen to me?”

Exodus 7

1 So *Adonai* said to Moses, “See, I have set you as God to Pharaoh, and Aaron your brother will be your prophet.

2 You are to speak all that I command you and Aaron your brother is to speak to Pharaoh, so that he will let *Bnei-Yisrael* go out of his land.

3 Yet I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, and multiply My signs and wonders in the land of Egypt.

4 But Pharaoh will not listen to you, so I will lay My hand upon Egypt, and bring forth My armies, My people *Bnei-Yisrael*, out of the land of Egypt by great judgments.

5 The Egyptians will know that I am *Adonai*, when I stretch out My hand against Egypt, and bring out *Bnei-Yisrael* from among them.”

6 So Moses and Aaron did as *Adonai* commanded them.

7 Moses was eighty years old and Aaron eighty-three years old when they spoke to Pharaoh.

8 *Adonai* told Moses and Aaron,

9 “When Pharaoh speaks to you saying, ‘Prove yourselves with a miracle,’ then you are to say to Aaron, ‘Take your staff and cast it down before Pharaoh, so that it may become a serpent.’”

10 So Moses and Aaron went in to Pharaoh and did as *Adonai* had commanded. Aaron threw down his staff before Pharaoh and before his servants, and it became a serpent.

11 Then Pharaoh called for the wise men and the sorcerers, and they too, the magicians of Egypt, did the same with their secret arts.

12 For each man threw down his staff, and they became serpents. But Aaron’s staff swallowed up their staffs.

13 Yet Pharaoh's heart was hardened. So he did not listen to them— just as *Adonai* had said.

Ten Plagues Begin: Blood

14 Then *Adonai* said to Moses, "Pharaoh's heart is stubborn; he refuses to let the people go.

15 Go to Pharaoh in the morning as he is coming out to the water, and stand ready to meet him by the bank of the Nile. Take the staff that was transformed into a serpent in your hand.

16 You are to say to him: *Adonai*, God of the Hebrews, has sent me to you, saying, 'Let My people go, so they may serve Me in the wilderness,' and behold, you have not listened.

17 This is what *Adonai* says: 'By this you will know that I am *Adonai*. Behold, I will strike the waters that are in the river with the staff that is in my hand, and they will be turned to blood.

18 The fish that are in the river will die, the river will become foul, and the Egyptians will hate to drink water from the Nile.'"

19 *Adonai* said to Moses, "Say to Aaron: Take your staff and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt, over their rivers, over their streams, over their pools and over all their ponds, so that they become blood. There will be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, even in wooden and stone containers."

20 So Moses and Aaron did as *Adonai* commanded. He lifted up the staff and struck the waters that were in the river in the sight of Pharaoh and his servants, and all the waters of the Nile turned to blood.

21 When the fish that were in the river died, the river became so foul that the Egyptians could not drink water from the river. The blood was throughout all the land of Egypt.

22 But the magicians of Egypt did the same with their secret arts. So Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he did not listen to them—just as *Adonai* had said.

23 Pharaoh turned and went into his house, and did not even take it to heart.

24 So all the Egyptians dug around the river for water to drink, because they could not drink of the water from the Nile.

25 Seven days were fulfilled after *Adonai* had struck the Nile.

26 Then *Adonai* said to Moses, “Go to Pharaoh and say to him: This is what *Adonai* says: ‘Let My people go, so they may serve Me.
27 If you refuse to let them go, see, I will strike all your territory with frogs.
28 The river will swarm with frogs. They will go up and enter your house, into your bedroom, upon your bed, into the houses of your servants, upon your people, into your ovens, and in your kneading bowls.
29 The frogs will climb up on you, your people and all your servants.’”

Exodus 8

Frogs, Gnats, Flies

1 Then *Adonai* told Moses, “Say to Aaron: Stretch out your hand with your staff over the rivers, canals and pools, and cause frogs to come up over the land of Egypt.”
2 So Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt, and the frogs came up and covered the land.
3 But the magicians did the same with their secret arts and brought up frogs over the land of Egypt.
4 Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron and said, “Pray to *Adonai*, that He would take the frogs away from me and from my people. Then I will let the people go, so they may sacrifice to *Adonai*.”
5 Moses answered Pharaoh, “Boast about me after I pray for you. When am I to pray for you, your servants and your people, that the frogs would be cut off from you and your houses, and remain only in the Nile?”
6 “Tomorrow,” he said. So he said, “Let it happen according to your word, so that you may know that there is none like *Adonai* our God.
7 The frogs will depart from you, from your houses, from your servants and from your people. They will remain only in the Nile.”
8 After Moses and Aaron went out from Pharaoh, Moses cried out to *Adonai* concerning the frogs, which He had brought upon Pharaoh.
9 So *Adonai* acted according to the word of Moses, and the frogs died out in the houses, the courts and the fields.
10 They piled them together in large heaps, and the land stank.

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

12 So *Adonai* said to Moses, “Tell Aaron, ‘Stretch out your staff and strike the dust of the earth, and it will become gnats throughout all the land of Egypt.’”

13 So they did. When Aaron stretched out his hand with his staff and struck the dust of the earth, there were gnats on men and animals. All the dust of the earth became gnats throughout all the land of Egypt.

14 When the magicians attempted the same with their secret arts to bring forth gnats, they could not. There were gnats on men and animals.

15 So the magicians said to Pharaoh, “This is the finger of God.” But Pharaoh’s heart was hardened, and he did not listen to them—just as *Adonai* had said.

16 Then *Adonai* said to Moses, “Rise up early in the morning and stand before Pharaoh. As he comes to the water say to him, This is what *Adonai* says: Let My people go, that they may serve Me.

17 Or else, if you do not let My people go, I will send the swarm of flies on you and on your servants, on your people and into your houses. The houses of the Egyptians will be full of the swarm of flies including the ground that they stand on.

18 “But on that day I will set apart the land of Goshen, where My people are dwelling—except no swarm of flies will be there—so that you may know that I, *Adonai*, am in the midst of the earth.

19 I will make a distinction between My people and your people. By tomorrow this sign will happen.”

20 *Adonai* did just so. A massive swarm of flies went into the house of Pharaoh and into his servant’s houses. All the land of Egypt was ruined because of the swarm of flies.

21 So Pharaoh called for Moses and for Aaron and said, “Go! Sacrifice to your God—in the land.”

22 But Moses said, “That would not be right. For the offerings we intend to sacrifice to *Adonai* our God are an abomination to the Egyptians. If we sacrifice what is an abomination to the Egyptians, wouldn’t they stone us?

23 We must walk a three-day journey into the wilderness and sacrifice to *Adonai* our God—just as He tells us.”

24 Pharaoh said, "I will let you go, so that you may sacrifice to *Adonai* your God in the wilderness. Only you must not go very far away. Pray for me."

25 So Moses said, "See, I am leaving you, and I will pray to *Adonai* that the swarm of flies will depart from Pharaoh, his servants and from his people tomorrow. However, let Pharaoh no longer deal deceitfully by not letting the people go sacrifice to *Adonai*."

26 Then Moses went out from Pharaoh and prayed to *Adonai*.

27 *Adonai* acted according to the word of Moses, and removed the swarm of flies from Pharaoh, from his servants and from his people. Nothing remained.

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

Exodus 9

Livestock, Boils, Hail

1 Then *Adonai* said to Moses, "Go in to Pharaoh, and tell him: This is what *Adonai*, the God of the Hebrews, says: 'Let My people go, so they may serve Me.'

2 For if you refuse to let them go, and hold them still,

3 behold, the hand of *Adonai* will fall upon your livestock that are in the field—on the horses, donkeys, camels, herds and flocks. There will be a crushing plague.

4 But *Adonai* will make a distinction between the cattle of Israel and the cattle of Egypt, and nothing will die that belongs to *Bnei-Yisrael*."

5 Also *Adonai* set a specific time, saying, "Tomorrow *Adonai* will do this thing in the land."

6 Then the next day, *Adonai* did the deed. All the cattle of Egypt died, yet of the cattle of *Bnei-Yisrael*, not one died.

7 When Pharaoh inquired, there was not so much as one of the cattle of *Bnei-Yisrael* dead. But the heart of Pharaoh was stubborn, and he did not let the people go.

8 Then *Adonai* said to Moses and Aaron, "Take handfuls of soot from the furnace, and have Moses throw it heavenward in the sight of Pharaoh.

9 It will become fine dust over all the land of Egypt, and will become boils erupting with sores on both men and animals throughout all the land."

10 So they took soot from the furnace and stood before Pharaoh. When Moses threw it heavenward, it became boils erupting with sores on both men and animals.

11 Moreover, the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils, because they were on the magicians, as on all the Egyptians.

12 But *Adonai* hardened the heart of Pharaoh, so he did not listen to them—just as *Adonai* had said to Moses.

13 Then *Adonai* said to Moses, “Rise up early in the morning, stand before Pharaoh and say to him: This is what *Adonai* the God of the Hebrews says: ‘Let My people go, so they may serve Me.

14 For this time I will send all My plagues to your heart, and on your servants and your people, so that you may know that there is none like Me in all the earth.

15 Surely by now I could have stretched out My hand and struck you and your people with a plague that would have wiped you off the earth.

16 However, I have let you stand for this reason: to show you My power, and that My Name might be proclaimed throughout all the earth.

17 Yet still you exalt yourself over My people, by not letting them go.

18 Behold, tomorrow at about this time, I will cause it to rain a very severe hailstorm, the likes of which has not occurred in Egypt since the day it was founded until now.

19 Send word, shelter your cattle and all that you have in the field. For every person and animal found in the field and not brought home, when the hail comes down on them, they will die.”

20 Whoever feared the word of *Adonai* among the servants of Pharaoh had his own servants and cattle flee into the houses,

21 but whoever disregarded the word of *Adonai* left his servants and cattle in the field.

22 Then *Adonai* said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand toward heaven and let there be hail in all the land of Egypt, on people, animals and every plant of the field, throughout all the land.”

23 So Moses stretched out his staff toward heaven, and *Adonai* sent thunder and hail. Fire came down on the earth, as *Adonai* rained hail on the land of Egypt.

24 The hail fell very severely, with fire flashing up amidst the hail, the likes of which had not occurred in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation.

25 The hail struck down everything that was in the fields, both men and animals, all throughout the land of Egypt. It also struck every plant of the field and broke down every tree.

26 Only in the land of Goshen, where *Bnei-Yisrael* were, was there no hail.

27 So Pharaoh sent, called for Moses and Aaron and said to them, “I have sinned this time. *Adonai* is righteous, while I and my people are wicked.

28 Pray to *Adonai*—there has been enough of God’s thunders and hail! I will let you go. You don’t have to stay any longer.”

29 Moses said to him, “As soon as I am gone out of the city, I will stretch out my hands to *Adonai*. The thunder will cease and there will be no more hail—so you may know that the earth is *Adonai*’s.

30 But as for you and your servants, I know that you do not yet fear *Adonai Elohim*.”

31 (The flax and the barley were destroyed, because the barley was in the ear, and the flax was in bloom.

32 But the wheat and the spelt were not destroyed, because they ripen later.)

33 Moses went out of the city, away from Pharaoh, and stretched out his hands to *Adonai*. Then the thunder and hail ceased, and rain no longer poured down on the earth.

34 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.

35 So Pharaoh’s heart was hardened and he did not let *Bnei-Yisrael* go—just as *Adonai* had said by Moses’ hand.

HAFTARAH

Ezekiel 28:25-26

25 Thus says *Adonai Elohim*: “When I have gathered the house of Israel from the people among whom they are scattered and show my holiness through them in the eyes of the nations, then they will live in their own land which I gave to My servant Jacob.

26 They will live safely there, and they will build houses and plant vineyards. They will live securely when I have executed judgments on all those around them that treated them with contempt. So they will know that I am *Adonai* their God.”

Ezekiel 29:1-21

Prophecy Against Egypt

1 On the twelfth day of the tenth month of the tenth year, the word of *Adonai* came to me saying:

2 “Son of man, set your face against Pharaoh king of Egypt. Prophecy against him and against all Egypt,

3 speak and say, thus says *Adonai Elohim*: ‘Behold, I am against you, Pharaoh King of Egypt, the great crocodile lying in his rivers, who says: “My Nile is my own — I made it for myself.”

4 I will put hooks in your jaws and make the fish of your streams stick to your scales. I will haul you up from within your rivers and all the fish of your streams will stick to your scales.

5 I will leave you in the desert — you and all the fish of your streams. You will fall on the open field. You will not be gathered or picked up. I will give you as food for the beasts of the earth and the birds of the sky.

6 Then all the inhabitants of Egypt will know that I am *Adonai*, because they were a staff of reed to the house of Israel.

7 When they took hold of you by the hand, you snapped and tore all their shoulders. When they leaned on you, you broke and wrenched all their hips.”

8 Therefore thus says *Adonai Elohim*: “Behold, I will bring a sword against you. I will cut off from you man and beast.

9 The land of Egypt will become desolate and waste. Then they will know that I am *Adonai*. Because he said, ‘The Nile is mine—I made it!’

10 therefore behold, I am against you and against your rivers. I will make the land of Egypt an utter waste and desolation, from Migdol to Syene, as far as the border of Ethiopia.

11 No human foot will pass through it, and no foot of beast will pass through it. It will be uninhabited for 40 years.

12 I will make the land of Egypt a desolation among devastated countries. Her cities will be a desolation 40 years among ruined cities. I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations and disperse them throughout the countries.”

13 For thus says *Adonai Elohim*: “At the end of 40 years, I will gather the Egyptians from the peoples where they were scattered.

14 I will restore the fortunes of Egypt. I will cause them to return to the land of Pathros, the land of their origin. But they will be a lowly kingdom there.

15 It will be the lowliest of the kingdoms. It will no longer exalt itself above the nations. I will diminish them, so that they no longer rule over the nations.

16 It will no longer be as security for the house of Israel, bringing to mind the iniquity of their turning after them. So they will know that I am *Adonai*.”

17 On the first day of the first month of the twenty-seventh year, the word of *Adonai* came to me saying:

18 “Son of man, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon made his army labor hard against Tyre. Every head became bald and every shoulder chafed. But he and his army had no profit from Tyre for the labor that he had expended against it.”

19 Therefore thus says *Adonai Elohim*: “Behold, I will give the land of Egypt to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon. He will carry off her abundance, take her spoil and take her prey. It will be the wages for his army.

20 I have given him the land of Egypt as his wages for which he served, because they worked for Me.” It is a declaration of *Adonai*.

Messianic Horn

21 “In that day I will cause a horn to shoot up for the house of Israel. I will open your mouth among them. They will know that I am *Adonai*.”

BRIT CHADASHA

Romans 9:14-17

14 What shall we say then? There is no injustice with God, is there? May it never be!

15 For to Moses He says, “I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.”

16 So then it does not depend on the one who wills or the one who strives, but on God who shows mercy.

17 For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, “For this very purpose I raised you up—to demonstrate My power in you, so My name might be proclaimed in all the earth.”

2 Corinthians 6:1-14

Preserving Sanctity in God’s Living Temple

14 Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership is there between righteousness and lawlessness? Or what fellowship does light have with darkness?

15 What harmony does Messiah have with Belial? Or what part does a believer have in common with an unbeliever?

16 What agreement does God’s Temple have with idols? For we are the temple of the living God—just as God said, “I will dwell in them and walk among them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

17 Therefore, come out from among them, and be separate, says *Adonai*. Touch no unclean thing. Then I will take you in.

18 I will be a father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says *Adonai-Tzva’ot*.”

2 Corinthians 7:1

1Therefore, since we have these promises, loved ones, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of body and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.