

וַאֲרָא

## Vaeira

(vah-ay-rah)  
(and I appeared)

### Shemot [Exodus] 6:2-9:35

הַפְּטָרָה וַאֲרָא

## Haftarah Vaeira

### Yechezqel (Ezekiel) 28:25-29:21

#### YHWH's Holiness Manifest in Israel

##### *Yechezqel (Ezekiel) 28:25*

*Thus says Adonai YHWH, "When I shall have gathered the house of Israel from the peoples among whom they are scattered, and shall manifest My holiness in them in the sight of the nations, then shall they dwell in their own land which I gave to my servant Ya'aqov."*

Notice that one of the things that YHWH will do after He has gathered us from all the peoples of the nations where He had scattered us, is that He will manifest His holiness in us for all to see and be a witness to this wondrous sight. We will have a degree of holiness or q'dusha that YHWH has already given to us as His people before we return to the Land. However, the q'dusha or holiness that He will manifest in us in the Land will be so much greater, it would be like comparing a farm pond to the ocean; i.e., both are bodies of water but the latter is so much greater in breadth, depth and scope that the former is completely swallowed up by the latter.

##### *Yechezqel (Ezekiel) 36:22-27*

*22 "Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'Thus says Adonai YHWH, "I do not do this for your sake, house of Israel, but for My holy name, which you have profaned among the nations, where you went.*

**23 And I will sanctify My great name, which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned in the midst of them; and the nations shall know that I am YHWH,” says Adonai YHWH, “when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes.**

**24 For I will take you from among the nations, and gather you out of all the countries, and will bring you into your own land.**

**25 And I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean; from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.**

**26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh.**

**27 And I will put My Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you shall keep My ordinances, and do them.”””**

We also see in this passage from the prophet Yechezqel where YHWH gives to us more detail about His cleansing us and purifying us when He brings us back to the land He promised to Avraham, to Yitzchak and to Ya’aqov. The first thing that we need to fix squarely in our minds is the reason that He is doing this. He is not doing it for us because we are so special or so holy or set-apart ourselves because the truth is that we fall way short of His standard of holiness. He is doing it for His own name’s sake.

What we are all guilty of is profaning His name among the nations, all the nations to which He scattered us. How have we profaned His name? As we will see below there are three main ways in which His people profane His name.

***Vayyiqra (Leviticus) 19:12***

***“And you shall not swear by My name falsely, and profane the name of your Elohim; I am YHWH.”***

As we see in this verse, when a person says something that is not true, and then calls upon YHWH as a witness to what he said and it is not true, then he has profaned the name of His Elohim. This happens way too often amongst His people. This is a very serious matter and we must not take this lightly.

***Vayyiqra (Leviticus) 20:3***

***“I also will set My face against that man, and will cut him off from among his people; because he has given of his seed to Molech, to defile My sanctuary, and to profane My holy name.”***

Another way in which a person can profane the name of YHWH our Elohim is by giving his children to Molech. Molech is a false god of the nations. There are many ways in which this is done today. When we do not teach our children to follow all of His commandments, then in essence such a parent is giving his children to Molech. It takes a lot of hard work to train our children to walk in the ways of YHWH. We must not allow our children to walk in their own counsel, but rather train them in the way of YHWH.

In this next passage is both a general way and a specific way in which one can profane the name of YHWH our Elohim.

***Vayyiqra (Leviticus) 22:31-33***

***31 "Therefore shall you keep My commandments, and do them; I am YHWH.***

***32 And you shall not profane My holy name; but I will be set-apart among the children of Israel; I am YHWH who sets you apart,***

***33 who brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your Elohim; I am YHWH."***

We are to keep all of His commandments. If we do not keep all of His commandments, then we have profaned His name. Brothers and sisters, we are surely guilty of this in the past. Let us fall on our faces before YHWH our Elohim and beg for His forgiveness. We need to stop making excuses in this area and own up to the reality that YHWH has commanded us to keep and do all of His commandments. We are not doing this. We are far from it. We need to seek YHWH's face and beseech Him to bring us back together and back to the Land so that He may manifest His holiness in us so that we may keep, do and obey all of His commandments. We need to do this now.

All this will be done in His time to be sure. But perhaps He is waiting on us, for us to show Him that we really do want to keep and obey all of His commandments. If we do nothing except wait on YHWH to move us and we do not move ourselves, what does this show our Creator? Nothing. It shows Him absolutely nothing. It shows Him that we are not all that interested in it.

I can remember when I was growing up and we would be going out on a day of hunting or fishing and we would be leaving early in the morning. I mean very early. My dad always knew that I was very much interested in going because I would generally be the first one up and ready to go. One thing that was not going to happen was that I was not going to get left behind. This was important and I did what was necessary to be ready to go and be ready to go on time.

I wonder how many of us are showing our heavenly Father that we really want to go back to the Land? Many just sit around waiting for YHWH to do something. Many think that YHWH has to do it all, to bring Ephrayim back together and back to the Land. Let us remind ourselves of this verse again.

***Devarim (Deuteronomy) 33:5***

***And to be in Yeshurun as King, gather yourselves the heads of the tribes to unite the nation of Israel.***

In order to unite the nation of Israel, we need to gather for ourselves the heads of the tribes. Then He will be King in Yeshurun. However, if we do not gather for ourselves the heads of the tribes, then how can YHWH know that we truly want to be a nation again? However, when we do step out in faith and bring together the heads of the tribes and YHWH sees this act of faith, then He will know it is time to return us to our land. May YHWH open our eyes so that we may see the fullness of this truth and act upon it in complete and perfect faith.

***Devarim (Deuteronomy) 12:8***

***"You shall not do after all the things that we do here this day, every man whatsoever is right in his own eyes;"***

We are not to do that which seems right in our own eyes. We are to do that which is right in the eyes of YHWH our Elohim; but only if we truly desire for YHWH to be our Elohim.

***Mishle (Proverbs) 12:15***

***The way of a fool is right in his own eyes;  
But he that is wise listens to counsel.***

Only a fool is foolish enough to think that he has it all figured out. Only a fool believes in the counsel of His own heart and mind. A wise man will listen to counsel and hear what it is that has been said by wise men down through the ages. But a fool rejects many things out of hand without even hearing what it is that YHWH may be saying through His people.

Notice how this people responded to this prophet of YHWH; a prophet, mind you!

***Yirmeyah (Jeremiah) 44:16-17***

***16 "As for the word that you have spoken to us in the name of YHWH, we will not listen to you.  
17 But we will certainly perform every word that is gone forth out of our mouth, to burn incense to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink-offerings to her, as we have done, we and our fathers, our kings and our princes, in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem; for then had we plenty of food, and were well, and saw no evil."***

Most people would not know a true prophet if they saw one. These people didn't seem to know, and if they did, they certainly did not care.

These people had deceived themselves into believing that a god of the nations in which there is no breath of life present could bless them and provide for their own needs on a daily basis. They had forsaken YHWH and gone and served the queen of heaven. Truly these people who were called by the name of YHWH had profaned His name.

YHWH had sent one of His prophets, Yirmeyah, to these people with a message; a message which they rejected out of hand without even so much as a second thought. It would ultimately cost them their lives. When a person stands and claims to speak for YHWH, then it behooves us to give serious consideration to the message that has been delivered. If it is according to Torah and does not contradict it, but supports it and builds upon it, then we had better be sure of what we are doing before rejecting such a message. Rejecting such a message could cost one his life.

***Mishle (Proverbs) 14:12***

***There is a way which seems right to a man;  
But the end thereof are the ways of death.***

We can choose to walk in the way of death and follow the imaginations of our own hearts. Or, we can repent of all that foolishness and follow after YHWH our Elohim and keep and do all His commandments. It is the personal choice of each one of us. What are you choosing?

ABBA YHWH, please open our eyes that we may see clearly to know what it is that You want us to do, then give us of Your strength that we may do it in faith that Your name may be glorified and honored amongst us once again; in the name of Yeshua our Mashiach. Amein.

Shabbat shalom

Zerubbabel ben Emunah

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