

Congregation T'shuvat Yisrael – www.Yeshuati.com

Rabbi Bob Benbow

For those who do not know, the Portion name comes from the first word or words of the portion in Torah. This week the Torah Portion name is Va'era and it is translated as "And I Appeared."

Shabbat Message:

And Elohim spoke to Moses, and said to him, I YHVH: and I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, by El Shaddai, but by My Name (Shem) YHVH was I not known to them. And I have also established My Covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land of their pilgrimage, wherein they were strangers. And I have also heard the groaning of the Children of Israel, whom the Egyptians keep in bondage; and I have remembered My Covenant. So rightly say to the Children of Israel, I YHVH, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will rid you out of their bondage, and I will redeem you with a stretched out arm, and with great judgments: and I will take you to Me for a people, and I will be to you a Elohim: and you shall know that I YHVH your Elohim, which brings you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. And I will bring you in to the land, concerning that which I did swear to give it to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob; and I will give it you for a heritage: I YHVH. And Moses spoke so to the Children of Israel: but they heard not to Moses for anguish/impatience of spirit, and for cruel bondage. (Ex. 6:2-9)

What is in a Name? The Name(s) of God reveal His Character, His Attributes, His Purpose and Plan, His Promise, His Honor, His Authority, and His Position. He appeared – showed Himself and they gazed upon Him, in sight or in visions, as "El" God of strength, mighty, Almighty "Shaddai" – powerful, God Who is powerful in Strength and has authority by His Word, Who can destroy or consume, Who is the Door and the Way, and creates by Word and Deed, a Covenant Maker. To Moses, He is YHVH, the Creator/Covenant Maker, Behold, One Who adds and secures, Behold! He is the Giver of Seed and Land as a heritage to those He chooses. He is One Who remembers His Covenant Promises, and He is a Deliverer out of bondage for His chosen ones when they cry out

and groan to Him because of their burden. He is the Natsal, the One Who will snatch away/pluck up/rescue out of the bondage of Egypt and the world. He is the Kinsman-Redeemer, the One Who Purchases, Ransoms, and Redeems His own, and He is also the One Who will take Revenge on those who are guilty. He redeems with stretched-out arms, and with great judgments. He is the Giver of Life and the Taker of that life. He is the Guide, the One Who will bring you into the Land that He has promised. He is the Shepherd Who tends His flock, provides for, watches over, and defends. He is the One Who will lead you beside still waters, and be with you in the Valley of the Shadow of Death. He is the One Who swears, Whose Word is True and Faithful, what He has said, He will do, and He is no respecter of persons, He does not judge by the sight of His eye nor the hearing of His ear, but Judges with Righteousness and Truth. He is the One Who Liberates and in Who is Freedom, freedom from bondage, freedom from sin, and freedom to become the one He has intended you to be. He is the One Who takes us as a people for Him, and He will be an Elohim, God to us. He is the One Who gives Understanding by Instruction, by His Word, by His Deed, and by His Spirit. He is the One Who knows us intimately, for He is our Maker. He knows All, nothing will surprise Him or take Him unawares. He is the One Who gives a heritage. He, the One Who Saves. He is King; His Kingdom come, His will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven. He is Lord; Lord of Lords, and LORD of ALL. He is coming again, to take out that which is His Alone. He will bring Judgment on the nations, He will pour out His Spirit with a double portion on His People. He will empower them, He will show His signs and wonders by His Mighty Hand, and His Name will be known in all the world. And He will have Mercy on His Chosen. He again will appear to the Children of Israel. Let His Voice be heard, and His People worship Him. Let not the cares of the world, impatience, and bondage interfere again. Selah.