

Revelation in Exodus

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1. The Burning Bush - Exodus, Chapter 3

Now Moses, tending the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian, drove the flock into the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. A messenger of יהוה appeared to him in a blazing fire out of a bush. He gazed, and there was a bush all aflame, yet the bush was not consumed. Moses said, "I must turn aside to look at this marvelous sight; why doesn't the bush burn up?" When יהוה saw that he had turned aside to look, God called to him out of the bush: "Moses! Moses!" He answered, "Here I am." And [God] said, "Do not come closer! Remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you stand is holy ground!" and continued, "I am the God of your father's [house]—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

And יהוה continued, "I have marked well the plight of My people in Egypt and have heeded their outcry because of their taskmasters; yes, I am mindful of their sufferings. I have come down to rescue them from the Egyptians and to bring them out of that land to a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey, the region of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. Now the cry of the Israelites has reached Me; moreover, I have seen how the Egyptians oppress them. Come, therefore, I will send you to Pharaoh, and you shall free My people, the Israelites, from Egypt."

But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and free the Israelites from Egypt?" And [God] said, "I will be with you; that shall be your sign that it was I who sent you. And when you have freed the people from Egypt, you shall worship God at this mountain."

Moses said to God, "When I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers' [house] has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is [God's] name?' what shall I say to them?" And God said to Moses, "Ehyeh-Asher-Ehyeh," continuing, "Thus shall you say to the Israelites, 'Ehyeh sent me to you.'" And God said further to Moses, "Thus shall you speak to the Israelites: יהוה, the God of your fathers' [house]—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you:

This shall be My name forever,
This My appellation for all eternity.

וּמֹשֶׁה הָיָה רֹעֵה אֶת־צֹאן יִתְרוֹ חֹתֵנוֹ כִּהְיוּ מִדְיָן וַיִּנְהַג אֶת־הַצֹּאן אַחֵר הַמִּדְבָּר וַיָּבֹא אֶל־הַר הָאֱלֹהִים חֹרֶבָה:
וַיֵּרָא מֵלֶאךָ יְהוָה אֵלָיו בְּלִבְת־אֵשׁ מִתּוֹךְ הַסִּנֶּה וַיֵּרָא וְהִנֵּה הַסִּנֶּה בֵּעֹר בָּאֵשׁ וְהַסִּנֶּה אֵינּוּ אֵכָל:
וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה אֶסְרֶה־נָּא וְאֶרְאֶה אֶת־הַמֶּרְאֶה הַגָּדֹל הַזֶּה מִדּוּעַ לֹא־יִבְעַר הַסִּנֶּה:
וַיֵּרָא יְהוָה כִּי סָר לְרֹאשׁוֹ וַיִּקְרָא אֵלָיו אֱלֹהִים מִתּוֹךְ הַסִּנֶּה וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה וַיֹּאמֶר הִנְנִי:
וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל־תִּקְרַב הָלֵם שֶׁל־נַעֲלֶיךָ מֵעַל רַגְלֶיךָ כִּי הַמָּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר אַתָּה עומד עָלָיו אֲדַמְתִּי־קֹדֶשׁ הוּא:
וַיֹּאמֶר אֲנֹכִי אֱלֹהֵי אֲבִיךָ אֱלֹהֵי אַבְרָהָם אֱלֹהֵי יִצְחָק וְאֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב וַיִּסְתֵּר מֹשֶׁה פָּנָיו כִּי יָרָא מִהַבֵּית אֶל־הָאֱלֹהִים:

וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה רְאֵה רָאִיתִי אֶת־עֲנִי עַמִּי אֲשֶׁר בְּמִצְרַיִם וְאֶת־צַעֲקָתָם שְׁמַעְתִּי מִפְּנֵי נַגְשָׁיו כִּי יִדְעִיתִי אֶת־מַכְאֲבֵיו:
וְאִרְדּוּ לְהַצִּילוֹ מִיַּד מִצְרַיִם וְלַהֲעֲלֹתוֹ מִן־הָאֶרֶץ הַהִוא אֶל־אֶרֶץ טוֹבָה וְרַחֲבָה אֶל־אֶרֶץ זָבֶת חֶלֶב וְדָבָשׁ אֶל־מָקוֹם הַכֹּנַעֲנִי וְהַחִתִּי וְהָאֱמֹרִי וְהַכְּנִזִּי וְהַיְבוֹסִי:
וְעַתָּה הִנֵּה צַעֲקַת בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל בָּאָה אֵלַי וְגַם־רָאִיתִי אֶת־הַלֶּחֶץ אֲשֶׁר מִצְרַיִם לֹחֲצִים אֹתָם:
וְעַתָּה לָכֵן וְאֶשְׁלַחְךָ אֶל־פַּרְעֹה וְהוֹצֵא אֶת־עַמִּי בְנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמִּצְרַיִם:

וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה אֶל־הָאֱלֹהִים מִי אֲנֹכִי כִי אֵלָךְ אֶל־פַּרְעֹה וְכִי אוֹצִיא אֶת־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמִּצְרַיִם:
וַיֹּאמֶר כִּי־אֶהְיֶה עִמָּךְ וְזֶה־לְךָ הָאוֹת כִּי אֲנֹכִי שְׁלַחְתִּיךָ בְּהוֹצִיאָךְ אֶת־הָעָם מִמִּצְרַיִם תַּעֲבֹדוּן אֶת־הָאֱלֹהִים עַל הָהָר הַזֶּה:

וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה אֶל־הָאֱלֹהִים הִנֵּה אֲנֹכִי בָא־אֶל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאָמַרְתִּי לָהֶם אֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם שְׁלַחְנִי אֵלֵיכֶם וְאָמְרוּ־לִי מִה־שְּׁמוֹ מָה אָמַר אֱלֹהִים:
וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים אֶל־מֹשֶׁה אֶהְיֶה אֲשֶׁר אֶהְיֶה וַיֹּאמֶר כֹּה תֹאמַר לְבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶהְיֶה שְׁלַחְנִי אֵלֵיכֶם:
וַיֹּאמֶר עוֹד אֱלֹהִים אֶל־מֹשֶׁה כֹּה־תֹאמַר אֶל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם אֱלֹהֵי אַבְרָהָם אֱלֹהֵי יִצְחָק:

ואלהי יעקב שלחני אליכם

זה שמי לעלם
זה זכרי לדר דר:

2. Aseret Hadibrot - 10 Commandments - Exodus 20

God spoke all these words, saying:

I am your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, the house of bondage:

You shall have no other gods besides Me.

You shall not make for yourself a sculptured image, or any likeness of what is in the heavens above, or on the earth below, or in the waters under the earth.

You shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I your God am an impassioned God, visiting the guilt of the parents upon the children, upon the third and upon the fourth generations of those who reject Me, but showing kindness to the thousandth generation of those who love Me and keep My commandments.

You shall not swear falsely by the name of your God יהוה; for יהוה will not clear one who swears falsely by God's name.

Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy.

Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath of your God יהוה: you shall not do any work—you, your son or daughter, your male or female slave, or your cattle, or the stranger who is within your settlements.

For in six days יהוה made heaven and earth and sea—and all that is in them—and then rested on the seventh day; therefore יהוה blessed the sabbath day and hallowed it.

Honor your father and your mother, that you may long endure on the land that your God יהוה is assigning to you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house:

you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox or ass, or anything that is your neighbor's.

All the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the blare of the horn and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw it, they fell back and stood at a distance.

“You speak to us,” they said to Moses, “and we will obey; but let not God speak to us, lest we die.”

Moses answered the people, “Be not afraid; for God has come only in order to test you, and in order that the fear of God may be ever with you, so that you do not go astray.”

וידבר אלהים את כל־הדברים האלה לאמר:
אנכי יהוה אלהיך אשר הוצאתיך מארץ מצרים
מִבֵּית עֲבָדִים:
לֹא־יִהְיֶה־לְךָ אֱלֹהִים אֲחֵרִים עַל־פָּנָי:

לֹא־תַעֲשֶׂה־לְךָ פֶסֶל וְכָל־תְּמוּנָה אֲשֶׁר
בַּשָּׁמַיִם וּמַמָּעַל וְאֲשֶׁר בָּאָרֶץ מִתַּחַת וְאֲשֶׁר בַּמַּיִם וּ
מִתַּחַת לָאָרֶץ:
לֹא־תִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה לָהֶם וְלֹא תַעֲבֹדֵם כִּי אֲנֹכִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ
אֵל קָנָא פֶקֶד עֹון אָבֹת עַל־בְּנֵים עַל־שְׁלִשִׁים
וְעַל־רִבְעִים לְשֹׁנָאִי:
וַעֲשֵׂה חֶסֶד לְאֻלָּפִים לְאַהֲבִי וּלְשֹׁמְרֵי מִצְוֹתַי:

לֹא תִשָּׂא אֶת־שֵׁם־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ לְשׁוּא כִּי לֹא יִנָּקֶה
יְהוָה אֶת אֲשֶׁר־יִשָּׂא אֶת־שְׁמוֹ לְשׁוּא:

זְכוֹר אֶת־יוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת לְקַדְּשׁוֹ:
שֵׁשֶׁת יָמִים תַּעֲבֹד וְעֵשִׂיתָ כָּל־מְלָאכָתְךָ:
וַיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי שַׁבָּת לַיהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ לֹא־תַעֲשֶׂה
כָּל־מְלָאכָה אַתָּה וּבִנְךָ וּבִתְּךָ עַבְדְּךָ וְאִמָּתְךָ
וּבְהֶמְתְּךָ וּגְרֶךָ אֲשֶׁר בְּשַׁעְרֶיךָ:

כִּי שֵׁשֶׁת־יָמִים עָשָׂה יְהוָה אֶת־הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת־הָאָרֶץ
אֶת־הַיָּם וְאֶת־כָּל־אֲשֶׁר־בָּם וַיָּנַח בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי עַל־כֵּן
בֵּרַךְ יְהוָה אֶת־יוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת וַיְקַדְּשֵׁהוּ:

כַּבֵּד אֶת־אָבִיךָ וְאֶת־אִמְךָ לְמַעַן יָאָרְכוּן יָמֶיךָ עַל
הָאָדָמָה אֲשֶׁר־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ נָתַן לְךָ:

לֹא תִרְצַח:

לֹא תִנָּאֵף:

לֹא תִגְנוֹב:

לֹא־תַעֲנֶה בְרַעַךְ עַד שֹׁקֶר:

וְכָל־הָעָם רֹאִים אֶת־הַקּוֹלֹת וְאֶת־הַלְפִידִם וְאֶת קוֹל
הַשֹּׁפָר וְאֶת־הָהָר עָשָׁן וַיֵּרָא הָעָם וַיָּנֻעוּ וַיַּעֲמִדּוּ
מֵרָחֵק:

וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֶל־מֹשֶׁה דַּבֵּר־אַתָּה עִמָּנוּ וְנִשְׁמָעָה
וְאַל־יְדַבֵּר עִמָּנוּ אֱלֹהִים פֶּן־נָמוּת:
וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה אֶל־הָעָם אֶל־תִּירְאוּ כִּי לִבְעֹבוֹר נִסּוּת

So the people remained at a distance, while Moses approached the thick cloud where God was.

אֲתָכֶם בָּא הָאֱלֹהִים וּבַעֲבוּר תִּהְיֶה יְרֵאתוֹ עַל-פְּנֵיכֶם
לְבַלְתִּי תִּחְטְאוּ:
וַיַּעֲמֵד הָעָם מֵרָחֵק וּמֹשֶׁה נִגַּשׁ אֶל-הָעֶרְפֹּל אֲשֶׁר-שָׁם
הָאֱלֹהִים:

3. The Second Set of Tablets - Moses Witnesses God's Back - Exodus 33, 34

He said, "Oh, let me behold Your Presence!"
And [God] answered, "I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim before you the name יהוה, and the grace that I grant and the compassion that I show," continuing, "But you cannot see My face, for a human being may not see Me and live."

And יהוה said, "See, there is a place near Me. Station yourself on the rock and, as My Presence passes by, I will put you in a cleft of the rock and shield you with My hand until I have passed by. Then I will take My hand away and you will see My back; but My face must not be seen."

CHAPTER 34

יהוה said to Moses: "Carve two tablets of stone like the first, and I will inscribe upon the tablets the words that were on the first tablets, which you shattered.
Be ready by morning, and in the morning come up to Mount Sinai and present yourself there to Me, on the top of the mountain. No one else shall come up with you, and no one else shall be seen anywhere on the mountain; neither shall the flocks and the herds graze at the foot of this mountain."

So Moses carved two tablets of stone, like the first, and early in the morning he went up on Mount Sinai, as יהוה had commanded him, taking the two stone tablets with him. יהוה came down in a cloud—and stood with him there, proclaiming the name יהוה.

יהוה passed before him and proclaimed: "יהוה! יהוה! a God compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in kindness and faithfulness, extending kindness to the thousandth generation, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin—yet not remitting all punishment, but visiting the iniquity of parents upon children and children's children, upon the third and fourth generations."

וַיֹּאמֶר הָרֹאֵנִי גַּא אֶת-כְּבוֹדְךָ:
וַיֹּאמֶר אֲנִי אַעֲבִיר כָּל-טוֹבִי עַל-פְּנֶיךָ וְקִרְאתִי בְּשֵׁם
יְהוָה לִפְנֶיךָ וְחִנֵּיתִי אֶת-אֲשֶׁר אָחֹן וְרַחֲמֹתִי אֶת-אֲשֶׁר
אֲרַחֵם:
וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא תוּכַל לִרְאֹת אֶת-פָּנַי כִּי לֹא-יִרְאֵנִי הָאָדָם
וְחִי:
וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה הִנֵּה מְקוֹם אֲתִי וְנִצַּבְתָּ עַל-הַצּוּר:
וְהָיָה בְּעֵבֶר כְּבֹדִי וְשִׁמְתִּיךָ בְּנִקְרַת הַצּוּר וְשַׁכַּתִּי כָּפִי
עָלֶיךָ עַד-עֲבָרִי: וְהִסַּרְתִּי אֶת-כְּפֹי וְרָאִיתָ אֶת-אֲחֵרִי
וּפָנִי לֹא יִרְאוּ:

ל"ד

וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה פָּסֵל-לָךְ שְׁנֵי-לַחַת אֲבָנִים
כְּרַאשֵׁינִים וְכַתְּבְתִּי עַל-הַלַּחַת אֶת-הַדְּבָרִים אֲשֶׁר הָיוּ
עַל-הַלַּחַת הָרַאשִׁינִים אֲשֶׁר שִׁבַּרְתָּ:
וְהָיָה נִכּוֹן לְבַקֵּר וְעַלִּית בְּבִקְרֹא אֶל-הָרִי סִינִי וְנִצַּבְתָּ לִּי
שָׁם עַל-רֹאשׁ הָהָר:
וְאִישׁ לֹא-יַעֲלֶה עִמָּךְ וְגַם-אִישׁ אֶל-יִרְא בְּכָל-הָהָר
גַּם-הַצֹּאן וְהַבִּקְרָא אֶל-יִרְעוּ אֶל-מֹול הָהָר הַהוּא:

וַיִּפְסֹל שְׁנֵי-לַחַת אֲבָנִים כְּרַאשֵׁינִים וַיִּשְׁלֹם מֹשֶׁה
בְּבִקְרֹא וַיַּעֲלֶה אֶל-הָרִי סִינִי כְּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יְהוָה אֹתוֹ וַיִּקַּח
בְּיָדוֹ שְׁנֵי לַחַת אֲבָנִים:
וַיַּרְדֵּי יְהוָה בָּעֶנָן וַיִּתְּצֵב עִמּוֹ שָׁם וַיִּקְרָא בְּשֵׁם יְהוָה:
וַיַּעֲבֹר יְהוָה אֶל-פְּנֵי וַיִּקְרָא יְהוָה אֶל-רַחוּם
וְחַנּוּן אֶרֶךְ אַפַּיִם וְרַב-חֶסֶד וְאֱמֶת:
נִצַּר חֶסֶד לְאֵלִפִּים נִשְׂא עֹון וּפָשַׁע וְחַטָּאָה וְנִקְהָ לֹא
יִנְקָה פֶקֶד אֶעֱנֶה אָבוֹת עַל-בָּנִים וְעַל-בָּנִי בָנִים
עַל-שְׁלִשִׁים וְעַל-רִבְעִים: