

Va'era

“And I appeared”

Exodus 6:3 – 9:36

Exodus 6:3

וַאֲרָא אֶל-אַבְרָהָם אֶל-יִצְחָק וְאֶל-יַעֲקֹב בְּאֵל שַׁדַּי וּשְׁמִי
יְהוָה לֹא נֹדַעְתִּי לָהֶם:

- Va'erah el-Avraham, el-Yitshaq, va'el-Ya'akov be'El Shaddai.
U'shemi YHVH lo nodati lahem(?)
- And I appeared to Avraham, to Yitshaq, and to Ya'aqob, as El Shaddai. And by My Name, YHVH, was I not known to them?

Secret Arts

- Exo 7:11 - Then Pharaoh also called for the wise men and the sorcerers, and they also, **the magicians of Egypt, did the same with their secret arts.**
- Exo 7:22 - But the magicians of Egypt **did the same with their secret arts**; and Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he did not listen to them, as the LORD had said.
- Exo 8:7 - The magicians **did the same with their secret arts**, making frogs come up on the land of Egypt.
- Exo 8:18 - The magicians **tried with their secret arts** to bring forth gnats, but they could not; so there were gnats on man and beast.

We Love the Supernatural

- **We CRAVE it. We SEEK it.** We are spiritual beings. We KNOW there is more than meets the eye. We are fascinated by magic.
- At the root of it is the **desire for magic powers**, mainly to amaze others. To BE magical, powerful, superheros.
- Act 8:9 - Now there was a man named Simon, who formerly was practicing magic in the city and **astonishing** the people of Samaria, **claiming to be someone great**;
- Act 8:11 - And **they were giving him attention** because he had for a long time **astonished them with his magic arts**.

We like what is SEEN.

- John 4:48 - “Unless you people see signs and wonders, you simply will not believe.”
- John 6:2 - large crowd followed Him, because they saw the signs
- 1Jo 2:15-16 - Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.
- For ALL that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.
- Gen 3:6 - When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate

There ARE Other Gods

- Ex. 12:12; ‘For I will go through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and **against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments—I am the LORD.**
- Nm. 33:4 - while the Egyptians were burying all their firstborn whom the LORD had struck down among them. **The LORD had also executed judgments on their gods.**
- Ex 12:12 ‘For I will go through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and **against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments—I am the LORD.**
- Ex 15:11
- **“Who is like You among the gods, O LORD?”**
- Ex 18:11 **“Now I know that the LORD is greater than all the gods; indeed, it was proven when they dealt proudly against the people.”**

There ARE Other Gods

- Num 33:4 - **while the Egyptians were burying all their firstborn whom the LORD had struck down among them. YHVH had also executed judgments on their gods.**
- Zep 2:11 - **YHVH will be terrifying to them, for He will starve all the gods of the earth;** and all the coastlands of the nations will bow down to Him, everyone from his own place.
- Deu 10:17 - **“For the YHVH your God is the God of gods and the Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God**
- Deu 32:17
- **“They sacrificed to demons who were not God,**
- **To gods whom they have not known,**
- **New gods who came lately,**
- **Whom your fathers did not dread.**

There ARE Other Gods

- Jdg 2:3 - “Therefore I also said, ‘I will not drive them out before you; but they will become as thorns in your sides and **their gods will be a snare to you.**’”
- II Sam 7:23 – (the people) whom You have redeemed for Yourself from Egypt, from nations **and their gods?**
- 1Ch 16:25 - For great is YHVH, and greatly to be praised; **He also is to be feared above all gods.**
- 2Ch 2:5 - “The house which I am about to build will be great, **for greater is our God than all the gods.**
- Psa 86:8 - **There is no one like You among the gods, O Lord,**
Nor are there any works like Yours.

There ARE Other Gods

- Psa 95:3, 96:4
- For the LORD is a great God
- **And a great King above all gods,**

- Psa 97:7
- Let all those be ashamed who serve graven images,
- Who boast themselves of idols;
- **Worship Him, all you gods.**

- Psa 97:9
- **For You are the LORD Most High over all the earth;**
- **You are exalted far above all gods.**

- Psa 135:5
- For I know that the LORD is great
- **And that our Lord is above all gods.**

There ARE Other Gods

- Psa 136:2
- Give thanks to the **God of gods,**

- Psa 138:1
- I will give You thanks with all my heart;
- I will sing praises to You **before the gods.**

- Jer 10:11
- Thus you shall say to them, **“The gods that did not make the heavens and the earth will perish from the earth and from under the heavens.”**

- Jer 46:25
- YHVH of hosts, the God of Israel, says, “Behold, I am going to punish Amon of Thebes, and Pharaoh, and Egypt **along with her gods** and her kings, even Pharaoh and those who trust in him.

“Sons of God”

- Gen 6:2 - that the **sons of God** saw that the daughters of men were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves, whomever they chose.
- Gen 6:4 - The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the **sons of God** came in to the daughters of men, and they bore children to them. Those were the **mighty men who were of old, men of renown.**
- Job 1:6 - Now there was a day when **the sons of God** came to present themselves before YHVH, and Satan also came among them.
- Job 2:1 - Again there was a day when **the sons of God** came to present themselves before YHVH, and Satan also came among them to present himself before YHVH.
- Job 38:7 - When the morning stars sang together, And all the **sons of God** shouted for joy

Yet For US...

- 1Co 8:5-6 - For even if there are so-called gods whether in heaven or on earth, as indeed there *are* many gods and many lords,
- **yet for us there is but one God**, the Father, from whom are all things and we exist for Him...

Powers, Principalities...

- Matt 24:24, Mark 13:22 - **“For false Messiahs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect.**
- Matt. 24:29, Mk 13:25 **the powers of the heavens will be shaken**
- Rom 8:38 - For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor **angels**, nor **principalities**, nor things present, nor things to come, nor **powers**,
- 1Pet 3:22 **who is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, after angels and authorities and powers had been subjected to Him.**
- 2Th 2:9 - that is, the one whose coming is in accord with **the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders,**

Powers, Principalities...

- **Rev 13:13 - He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men.**
- **Rev 13:14 - And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform**
- **Rev 16:14 - for they are spirits of demons, performing signs,**
- **Rev 19:20 - And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image;**

Comfort and Prosperity

- **Deut. 31:20** “For when I bring them into the land flowing with milk and honey, which I swore to their fathers, and they have eaten and are satisfied and become prosperous, then they will turn to other gods and serve them, and spurn Me and break My covenant.
- Pro 30:8-9
- Keep deception and fmlies far from me,
- Give me neither poverty nor riches;
- Feed me with the food that is my portion,
- **That I not be full and deny You and say, “Who is the LORD?”**
- Or that I not be in want and steal,
- And profane the name of my God.

Can NOT Serve God and Wealth

- **1Ti 6:10**
- **For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.**

- **Heb 13:5**
- **Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, “I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU,”**

- **Mat 6:24**
- **“No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.**

Can NOT Serve God and Wealth

- Luk 16:13
- “No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be devoted to one and despise the other. **You cannot serve God and wealth.**”
- **Do not be anxious about food and clothing...**
- Mat 6:32
- “For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.
- Mat 6:33
- **“But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.**

Conclusions 1

- **Ex. 20:3 “You shall have no other gods before Me.**
- **Ex. 23:13 - Do not mention the names of other gods**
- **Deut 6:14 You shall not follow other gods, any of the gods of the peoples who surround you, (...a jealous God...)**

Conclusions 2

- **Deu 17:2-7**
- “If there is found in your midst, in any of your towns, which YHVH your God is giving you, a man or a woman who does what is evil in the sight of YHVH your God, by transgressing His covenant,
- and has gone and served **other gods** and worshiped them, or the sun or the moon or any of the heavenly host, which I have not commanded,
- and if it is told you and you have heard of it, then you shall inquire thoroughly. Behold, if it is true and the thing certain that this detestable thing has been done in Israel,
- then you shall bring out that man or that woman who has done this evil deed to your gates, that is, the man or the woman, and you shall stone them to death.
- **...So you shall purge the evil from your midst.**

Conclusions 3

- **Deu 18:20**
- **‘But the prophet who speaks a word presumptuously in My name which I have not commanded him to speak, or which he speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.’**

Conclusions 4

- Deu 13:13-18
- some worthless men have gone out from among you and have **seduced** the inhabitants of their city, saying, '**Let us go and serve other gods**' (whom you have not known),
- then you shall investigate and search out and inquire thoroughly. If it is true and the matter established that this abomination has been done among you,
- you shall surely **strike the inhabitants of that city with the edge of the sword, utterly destroying it and all that is in it** and its cattle with the edge of the sword.
- "Then you shall gather all its booty into the middle of its open square and **burn the city and all its booty** with fire as a whole burnt offering to YHVH your God; and it shall be **a ruin forever**. It shall never be rebuilt.
- "Nothing from that which is put under the ban shall cling to your hand, in order that YHVH may turn from His burning anger and **show mercy to you, and have compassion on you and make you increase, just as He has sworn to your fathers,**
- **if you will listen to the voice of the LORD your God, keeping all His commandments which I am commanding you today, and doing what is right in the sight of YHVH your God.**

Conclusions 5

- Deu 30:15-18
- “See, I have set before you today life and **prosperity** (good), and death and adversity;
- in that I command you today to love YHVH your God, to walk in His ways and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His judgments, that you may live and multiply, and that YHVH your God may bless you in the land where you are entering to possess it.
- “But if your heart turns away and you will not obey, but are drawn away and worship **other gods** and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall surely perish.

Conclusions 6

- Eph 6:11
- Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to **stand firm against the schemes of the devil.**
- Eph 6:12 - **For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.**

Conclusions 7

- 1Jo 2:17 - **The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.**
- Jos 24:15 - ...Choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; **but as for me and my house, we will serve YHVH.**”

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