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# WEEK 14 SCRIPTURE READING

5779 / 2018-19

A close-up photograph of a person wearing a white, textured robe. They are holding a reddish-brown clay jug with both hands. The jug has a wide, flared opening and a small handle. A stream of water is being poured from the jug's opening. The background is a soft, out-of-focus white.

*by Roly Buys*

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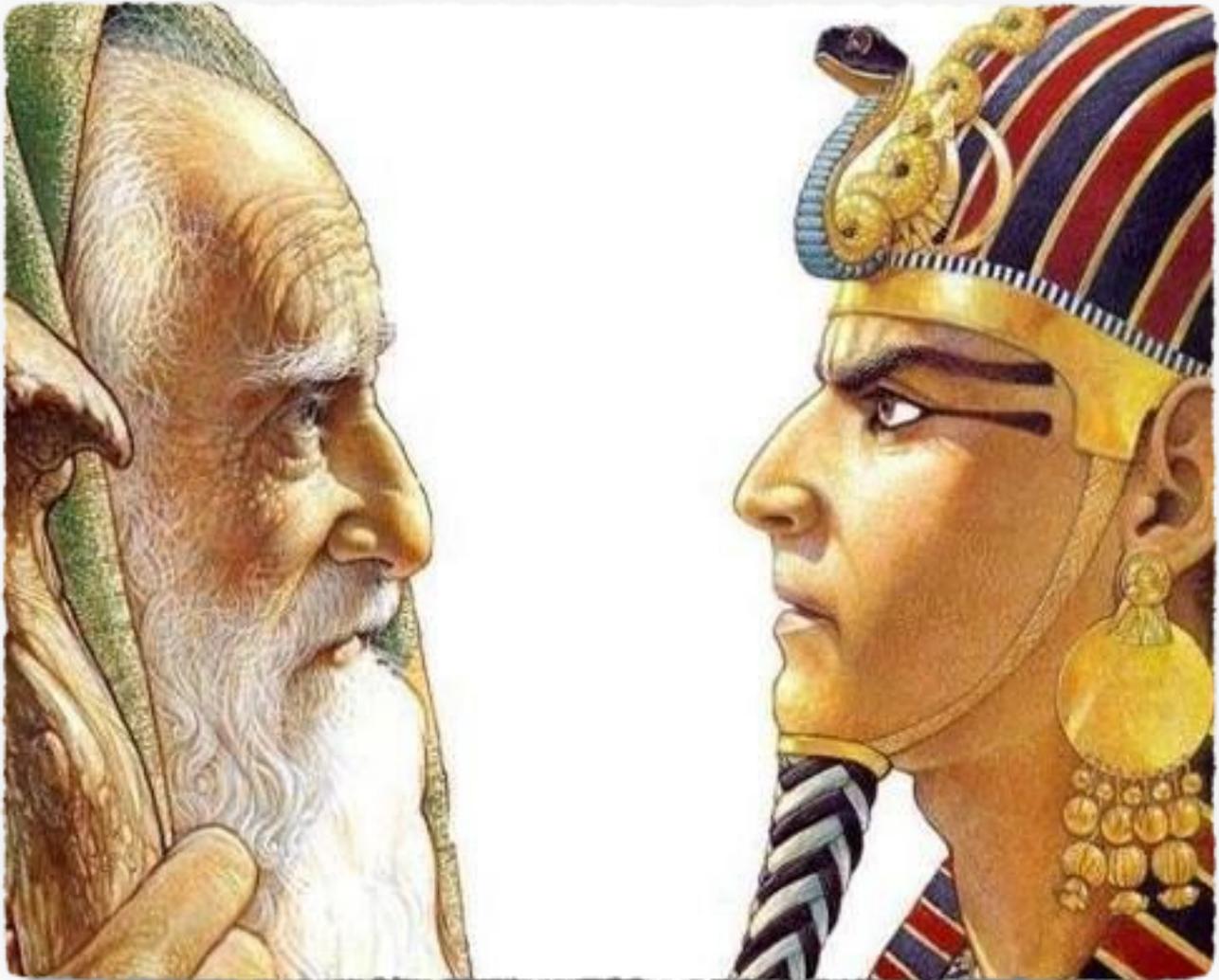
# Parashah Vayeira | “and He Appeared” | ויירה

Week 14

## IF YOU REFUSE TO LET MY PEOPLE GO!

The verse that stands out for me this week is:

**Exodus 9:1-4 (a)** “Here is what ADONAI, the GOD of the Hebrews, says: “Let My people go, so that they can worship Me. **If you refuse** to let them go and persist in holding on to them, the Hand of ADONAI is on you ... But ADONAI will **distinguish between Egypt’s and Isra’el’s ...**”



## Consider This ...

We know that Pharaoh is only a 'type' of the world leader that represents the anti-GOD empire.

These kingdoms find form in a number of ways ... mostly starting from the act of **compromise**.

One of the biggest traps for believers to fall into is to think that we can mix with these systems / spirits - and still remain pure / on firm ground.

### HISTORY

Think of Germany before the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War ... many Jews were serving in senior positions, however, because they had assimilated into that society (thinking that they were German Jews), they failed to see the disaster that was looming in front of them.

**This passage teaches an important principle ...**

- (a) If we as believers are pure and dedicated to YHVH, and earnestly seek to **Sh'ma - hear and do** - whatever it is that we are required to do,
- (b) BUT! we get tied up / bound fast by the kingdom of this world who refuse to let us go - slaves in Egypt,
- (c) then YHVH will rescue us and set us apart - live in Goshen - from unbelievers / the world system - the plagues will not touch you.

But this implies that the believers are pure and holy - they are capable of being set apart priests in a Holy Tabernacle, even though they are under pressure from the world system.

### How does this world system control us?

- ◆ The **media** has a particular agenda ...
  - to ensure that their views are maintained by false / biased reporting of human rights vs the acceptance of GODLY responsibilities.
- ◆ The **culture** has a particular agenda ...
  - to ensure that community beliefs and values as determined by the few in leadership ... outweigh the principles of the Bible.
- ◆ The **economy** has an agenda ...
  - to take the wealth from those who have earned it through hard work and transfer it to the few who are in control - as opposed to YHVH's Principle where every man has a plot of land.

We may think that we are free - simply because we have the right to vote ... again the majority (as in the case of the TEN spies) does not mean that we determine the correct path to follow.

Yet YHVH says *“He will distinguish our property / possessions / rights from that of the world.”*

Even if the world system puts us under pressure, and tries to tie us up (by working long hours, or working away from home, etc), He still distinguishes us.

**The Hebrew meaning of “to be set apart”:**

Strong’s 6395: <b>pa’lah</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To be set apart</li><li>• To be different</li><li>• To be distinct / distinguished</li></ul>
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***Psalm 139:14*** *“I thank You because I am awesomely made, wonderfully; **Your Works are wonders** - I know this very well.”*

***Exodus 9:4-5*** *“But ADONAI will distinguish between Egypt’s and Isra’el’s livestock - **nothing belonging to the people of Isra’el will die.** ADONAI determined the exact time by saying, “Tomorrow ADONAI will do this in the land.”*

***Psalm 4:4*** *“Understand that **ADONAI sets apart the GODLY person for Himself;** ADONAI will hear when I call to Him.”*

***Psalm 17:7*** *“Show **how wonderful is Your Grace,** Savior of those who seek at Your Right Hand refuge from their foes.”*

We are often bombarded with:

- ◆ bad news
- ◆ false news
- ◆ news of fearful events.

When the words and images that surround us daily in the news reports / TV and Facebook messages are all negative, then it’s hard to think that we can see the benefits of the Covenant.

We need to hear the positive news ... that we and whatever is ours has been set apart / distinguished by YHVH and that He knows where we are!

## WHAT SHOULD WE TALK ABOUT THIS WEEK?

1. How do you deal with negative news in a way that does not affect your ability to believe that you are distinguished / set apart?

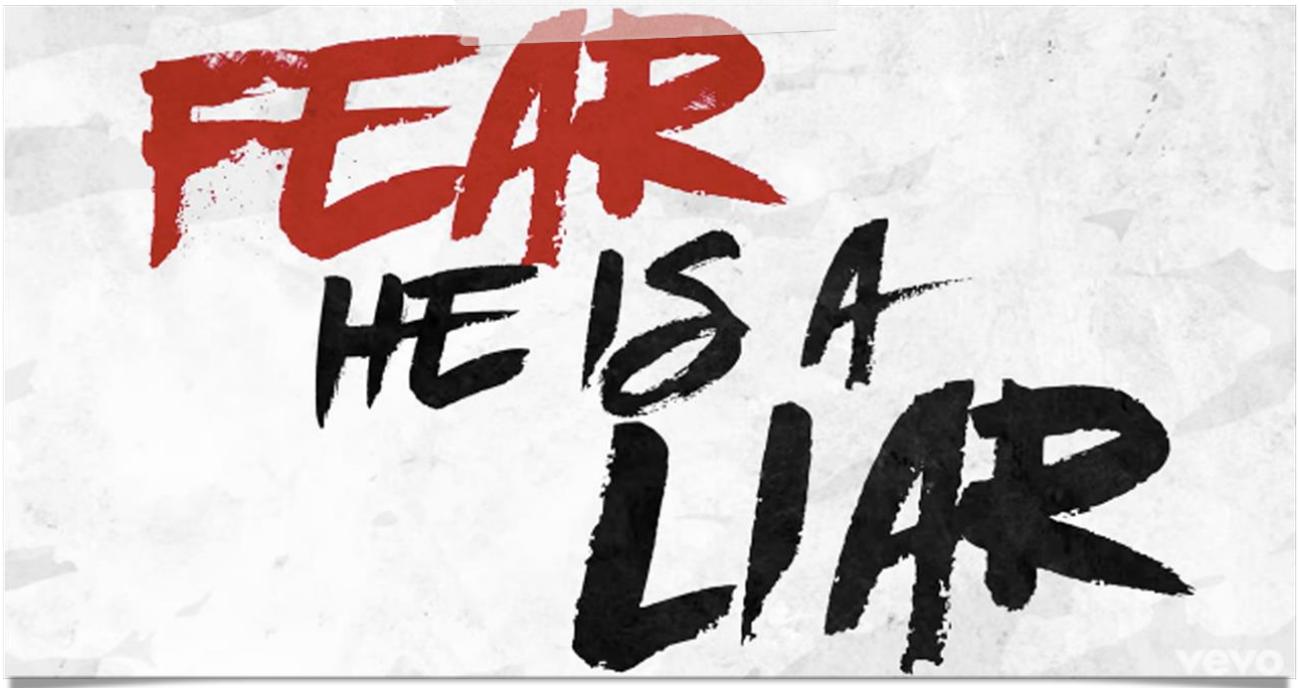


## A FINAL THOUGHT

To enter the Tabernacle in the physical and the spiritual we are required to distinguish between *clean and unclean - holy and unholy*.

Every believer who fails to be *clean and holy* would enter the Tabernacle at his own peril. The concept of *unclean* includes any physical thoughts or actions that we do which do not conform to the benchmark of God's Character. God tells us that He is faithful at all times and therefore, anything which causes our faith to be compromised is *unclean*.

**Fear** will keep you out of the inner chambers of the Tabernacle ... Allowing **fear** to rule your life defines you as "*unclean*".



Having **faith** keeps you in the inner sanctuary.



**Don't lose your priestly robe by listening to the pharaohs of this world.**

## **BLESSING**

Numbers 6:24-27

*"Y'varekh'kha YHVH v'yishmerekha.*  
**May YHVH bless you and keep you.**

*Ya'er YHVH panav eleikha vichunekka.*  
**May YHVH make His Face shine on you and show you His favour.**

*Yissa YHVH panav eleikha v'yasem l'kha shalom.*  
**May YHVH lift up His Face toward you and give you peace.**

**Numbers 6:27** *"In this way they are to put **My Name** on the people of Isra'el, so that I will **Bless** them."*

