

The Mishkan at Central Synagogue

Parashat Va'eira, January 13, 2017 / 26 Tevet 5778

Morning Blessings of Gratitude / *Birchot HaShachar*

(74) Gathering / Mah Tovv

Waking / Modeh Ani

Our Bodies / *Asher Yatzar*

(78) Our Souls / Elohai Neshama

(82) Everyday Miracles / *Nisim B'Chol Yom*

Learning Torah

Songs of Praise / *Pesukei D'Zimrah*

Psalm 145 / *Ashrei*

(100) Psalm 150 / *Hallelujah*

Even if Our Mouths / *Ilu Finu*

The Shema and its Blessings

(108) Call to Prayer / *Bar'chu*

The Wonder of Creation / *Yotzeir Or*

(113) The Loving Gift of Torah / *Ahavah Rabbah*

(114) Proclaiming God's Oneness / *Shema*

(116) *V'ahavta*

(122) Song of Our Redemption / *Mi Chamocha*

Our Rock & Redeemer / *Tzur Yisrael*

Standing Prayer / *Tefillah / Amidah*

(124) Open our Mouths / *Adonai Sefatai Tiftach*

(126) God of Our Ancestors / *Avot*

(128) Life-Giving and Powerful God / *G'vurot*

(130) Sanctifying God's Name / *Kedushah*

Sanctifying Shabbat / *Yis'm'chu* or *V'Shamru*

We Give Thanks / *Modim Anachnu Lach*

Prayer for Peace / *Sim Shalom*

Guarding our Speech / *Elohai N'ztor*

(142) May Our Prayers Be Heard / *Yih'yu L'ratzon*

Torah Service (248)

Words of the Prophets / *Haftarah*

Proclaiming God's Greatness / *Aleinu*

Mourners' Prayer / *Kaddish YaTom*

Abraham Joshua Heschel, *The Prophets*:

1 The prophet is an iconoclast, challenging the apparently holy, revered, and awesome. Beliefs cherished as certainties, institutions endowed with supreme sanctity, he exposes as scandalous pretensions...The prophet knew that religion could distort what the Lord demanded of man, that priests themselves had committed perjury by bearing false witness, condoning violence, tolerating hatred, calling for ceremonies instead of bursting forth with wrath and indignation at cruelty, deceit, idolatry, and violence...The holy place is doomed when people indulge in unholy deeds.

2 The prophet is a man who feels fiercely. God has thrust a burden upon his soul, and he is bowed and stunned at man's fierce greed. Frightful is the agony of man; no human voice can convey its full terror. Prophecy is the voice that God has lent to the silent agony, a voice to the plundered poor, to the profaned riches of the world. It is a form of living, a crossing point of God and man. God is raging in the prophet's words.

3 The prophet's eye is directed to the contemporary scene; the society and its conduct are the main theme of his speeches. Yet his ear is inclined to God. He is a person struck by the glory and the presence of God, overpowered by the hand of God. Yet his true greatness is his ability to hold God and man in a single thought.

4 The prophet's ear...is attuned to a cry imperceptible to others.

5 Above all, the prophet reminds us of the moral state of a people; Few are guilty, but all are responsible. If we admit that the individual is in some measure conditioned or affected by the spirit of society, an individual's crime discloses society's corruption. In a community not indifferent to suffering, uncompromisingly impatient with cruelty and falsehood, continually concerned for God and every man, crime would be infrequent rather than common.

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Exodus 6:5-8

(5) I have now heard the moaning of the Israelites because the Egyptians are holding them in bondage, and I have remembered My covenant. (6) Say, therefore, to the Israelite people: I am the LORD. I will free you from the labors of the Egyptians and deliver you from their bondage. I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and through extraordinary chastisements. (7) And I will take you to be My people, and I will be your God. And you shall know that I, the LORD, am your God who freed you from the labors of the Egyptians. (8) I will bring you into the land which I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and I will give it to you for a possession, I the LORD.”

ה וגם | אָנִי שָׁמַעְתִּי אֶת־נַאֲקַת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל
אֲשֶׁר מִצְרַיִם מֵעֲבָדִים אַתֶּם וְאֶזְכָּר אֶת־
בְּרִיתִי: ו לָכֵן אֶמַּר לְבְנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל אָנִי יְהוָה
וְהוֹצֵאתִי אֶתְכֶם מִמִּצְרַיִם
וְהִצַּלְתִּי אֶתְכֶם מֵעֲבָדְתֶּם וְגֹאֲלִתִּי אֶתְכֶם
בְּזֵרוּעַ נְטוּיָה וּבְשִׁפְטִים גְּדֹלִים: ז וְלִקְחֹתִי
אֶתְכֶם לִי לְעָם וְהִיִּיתִי לְכֶם לֵאלֹהִים וַיַּדְעֹתֶם
כִּי אָנִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם הַמּוֹצִיא אֶתְכֶם מִמִּצְרַיִם
סְבֻלוֹת מִצְרַיִם: ח וְהִבֵּאתִי אֶתְכֶם אֶל־הָאָרֶץ
אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁאַתִּי אֶת־יְדִי לְתַת אֹתָהּ לְאַבְרָהָם
לְיִצְחָק וּלְיַעֲקֹב וְנָתַתִּי אֹתָהּ לְכֶם מְוֹרָשָׁה
אָנִי יְהוָה: