

Torah Portion #14: Va'era (וָאֵרָא) "and I appeared"

Torah ~ Exodus 6:2-9:35 | Prophets ~ Ezekiel 28:25-29:21 | New Covenant ~ Romans 9:14-33

### When God Appeared

God appeared to mankind many times in the Hebrew Scriptures either in the form of the Angel of the Lord or in the form of a Man. In all of these appearances the Angel of the Lord or the Man either spoke as God, identified Himself with God, or exercises the responsibilities of God. In several of these appearances, those who saw the Angel of the Lord feared for their lives because they had seen the Lord.

*John 1* says that when God comes to the earth to dwell among us that He comes in His Son, Yeshua. Therefore when God appeared to us in the Old Testament, either in the Angel of the Lord or a Man, it was Yeshua. In the New Testament, we no longer see the appearance of "the" Angel of the Lord, only the appearance of "a" Angel of the Lord.

*Matthew 1:23* "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and give birth to a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which means "God with us." TLV

#### God in the form of a Man in the Old Testament

*Genesis 14:18-20* ~ Abraham gets a visit from Melchizedek whose name means "King of Righteousness".

-- He has no father, no mother, and no family history.

-- *Jeremiah 23:5* says that the Messiah will be a "Righteousness King".

-- *Hebrews 6:18-20* says Yeshua entered the Heavenly Holy of Holies, as our High Priest, in the order of Melchizedek.

-- *Hebrews 5:6* speaks of Yeshua that "You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek" NASB

*Genesis 18:1-2* ~ The Lord and two other men appears to Abraham at his tent.

*Genesis 32:24-30* ~ Jacob wrestles with a Man that does things that only the Lord could do.

*Joshua 5:13-15* ~ The Commander of the army of the Lord appears to Joshua.

The Fiery Furnace ~ *Daniel 3:25* "Look!" he answered, "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God." NKJV

#### God in the form of the Angel of the Lord in the Old Testament

*Genesis 16:7-11* ~ The Angel of the Lord appears to Hagar and Ishmael.

*Genesis 22:11-19* ~ The Angel of the Lord speaks to Abraham from Heaven about the sacrifice of Isaac.

*Exodus 3:1-6* ~ The Angel of the Lord appears to Moses at the burning bush.

*Numbers 22:22-41* ~ The Angel of the Lord appears to Balaam and his donkey.

*Judges 2:1-5* ~ The Angel of the Lord rebukes the children of Israel.

*Judges 6:11-27* ~ The Angel of the Lord appears to Gideon.

*Judges 13:3-24* ~ The Angel of the Lord appears to announce the soon birth of Samson.

*2 Samuel 24:16* ~ The Angel of the Lord is at the threshing floor.

*1 Kings 19:7* ~ The Angel of the Lord appeared to Elijah in the wilderness.

*2 Kings 1:3 & 15* ~ The Angel of the Lord speaks to Elijah.

*2 Kings 19:35 & Isaiah 37:36* ~ The Angel of the Lord strikes 185,000 Assyrians.

*1 Chronicles 21:12-30* ~ The Angel of the Lord was sent to Jerusalem because of David's sinful census.

*Psalms 34:7* "The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, And rescues them." NASB

Lions Den ~ *Dan. 6:22a* "My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths and they have not harmed me" NASB

*Zechariah 3:1-10* ~ The Angel of the Lord appears in the vision of Joshua the High Priest.

#### In Closing

Not only is Yeshua pictured by other people throughout the Old Testament but He is literally in the Old Testament.