**2023 Parashah Reading #14 Name: Va’era Torah Reading: Shemot 6:2 – 9:35**

**Haftarah Reading: Yehezqel 28:25-29:21 Gospel Reading: Luke 11:14-22**

**Torah Portion, Outline and Questions for Discussion Shemot 6:2 – 9:35**

**Chapter 6:2 - 13** **“YHWH Promises Deliverance”** **cont. Chapter 6:14 - 30** “**The Genealogy of Moshe and Aharon”**

**Chapter 7:1 - 13** “**Moshe and Aharon Before Pharaoh”** **Chapter 7:14 - 25** “**The First Plague: Water Turned to Blood”** **Chapter 8:1 - 15** **“The Second Plague: Frogs**” **Chapter 8:16 - 19 “The Third Plague: Gnats”**

**Chapter 8:20 - 32 “The Fourth Plague: Flies” Chapter 9:1 - 7 “The Fifth Plague: Egyptian Livestock Die”**

**Chapter 9:8 - 12 “The Sixth Plague: Boils” Chapter 9:13 - 35 “The Seventh Plague: Hail”**

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**Questions for Discussion**

1. **Scholar Review Questions**-In Chapter 1 we read where YHWH promises deliverance, and the genealogy of Moshe and Aaron.
2. What exactly does YHWH promise? Does He fulfill His promise and if so, how?
3. What tribe were Moshe and Aaron from and what significance can we draw from that? Does their role fit with Yacob’s foretelling over his sons?
4. Why didn’t YHWH choose from the tribe of Yehuda?
5. What stands out to you in the account where Moshe and Aharon appearing before Pharaoh several times?
6. Why was it Aharon who threw down the staff, even though the same power had been given to Moshe for him to give a sign to the Hebrews?
7. **Scholar Review Questions-**In this Parashah and in next week’s, we read of a lot of plagues:
8. Why were there so many?
9. Are these plagues just generic bad news, or do they each serve a specific purpose?
10. Can you find anything unique or interesting in these plague accounts you can share with the rest of us?
11. Do any of these plague manifestations show up later in Scripture?

**Haftarah and Gospel Portions, Outlines and Questions for Discussion**

**Haftarah Parashah Yehezqel 28:25-29:21**

**Chapter 28:25 - 26 “Israel Gathered in Security” Chapter 29:1- 21 “Prophecy Against Egypt”**

**Questions for Discussion**

Yehezqel (Ezekiel) was a prophet whose ministry was from 593 – 571 BC (BCE). His messages were mainly for the people of Judah (Jews) who were exiled to Babylon in 597 BC and who had watched their Beit Hamikdash (The Temple) and their homeland destroyed. Much like Yeshayahu (Isaiah) and Micha(Micah), Yehezqel’s message is one of rebuke from YHWH followed by hope from YHWH. It is interesting to note Yehezqel’s name means “God strengthens,” so in a way one could say YHWH sent Yehezqel to strengthen His distressed people Judah with His hope. May we find this comforting in our time of distress as we witness the coming of our Lord Yeshua in these last days.

1. What stands out to you in this haftarah portion and why?
2. Why was this scripture used as the haftarah paired to this week’s Torah Parashah?
3. Who does the gathering of Israel, when does it take place, and why does it happen?
4. Why does YHWH judge Egypt, what does that judgment entail, and when do you believe He will do it?
5. According to this passage, what gives YHWH the right to judge Egypt?

**Gospel Parashah Luke 11:14-22**

**Chapter 11:14 - 22 “Yeshua and Beelzebul”**

**Questions for Discussion**

1. Verse 14 states, “And He was casting out a demon, and it was dumb. And it came to be, when the demon had gone out, that the dumb spoke. And the crowds marvelled.” (TS2009) Can you tie this action in with scripture stating the Messiah will do this?
2. Verse 15 states, “But some of them said, “He casts out demons by Be‛elzebul, the ruler of the demons,”.” What does Be’elzebul mean?
3. Verse 20 states, “But if I cast out demons by the finger of Elohim, then the reign of Elohim has come upon you.” Explain in your own words what Yeshua means by this. As a bonus use a Torah reference to this.
4. Verse 23 states, “He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters.” In your own words explain the latter part of this verse, especially as it relates to your own life.

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