

TORAH TEACHINGS



Understanding YAH's Likes and dislikes

**#4 Vayeira (וַיֵּרָא – Hebrew for
“and He appeared,” –**

**Torah: Genesis 18:1-22;24
Haftarah: II Kings 4:1-37**

TOPICS IN THE PARSHA

THIS WEEKS TORAH PARASHAT

Elohim reveals Himself to Abraham three days after the first Hebrew's circumcision at age ninety-nine; but Abraham rushes off to prepare a meal for three guests who appear in the desert heat. One of the three—who are angels disguised as men—announces that, in exactly one year, the barren Sarah will give birth to a son. Sarah laughs.

TOPICS IN THE PARSHA

THIS WEEKS TORAH PARASHAT

Abraham pleads with Elohim to spare the wicked city of Sodom. Two of the three disguised angels arrive in the doomed city, where Abraham's nephew Lot extends his hospitality to them and protects them from the evil intentions of a Sodomite mob. The two guests reveal that they have come to overturn the place, and to save Lot and his family. Lot's wife turns into a pillar of salt when she disobeys the command not to look back at the burning city as they flee.

TOPICS IN THE PARSHA

THIS WEEKS TORAH PARASHAT

While taking shelter in a cave, Lot's two daughters (believing that they and their father are the only ones left alive in the world) get their father drunk, lie with him and become pregnant. The two sons born from this incident father the nations of Moab and Ammon.

TOPICS IN THE PARSHA

THIS WEEKS TORAH PARASHAT

Abraham moves to Gerar, where the Philistine king Abimelech takes Sarah—who is presented as Abraham's sister—to his palace. In a dream, Elohim warns Abimelech that he will die unless he returns the woman to her husband. Abraham explains that he feared he would be killed over the beautiful Sarah.

TOPICS IN THE PARSHA

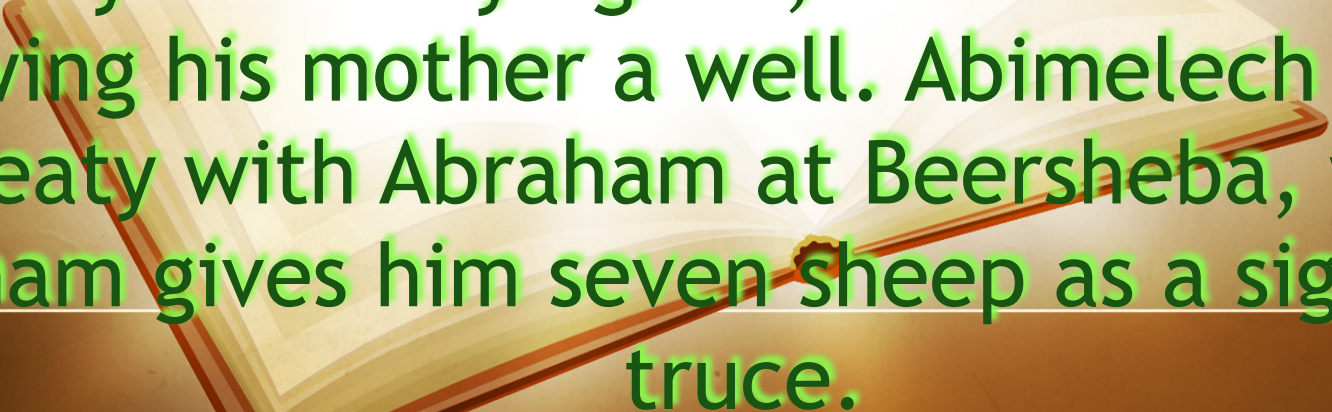
THIS WEEKS TORAH PARASHAT

Elohim remembers His promise to Sarah, and gives her and Abraham a son, who is named Isaac (Yitzchak, meaning “will laugh”). Isaac is circumcised at the age of eight days; Abraham is one hundred years old, and Sarah ninety, at their child’s birth.

TOPICS IN THE PARSHA

THIS WEEKS TORAH PARASHAT

Hagar and Ishmael are banished from Abraham's home and wander in the desert; Elohim hears the cry of the dying lad, and saves his life by showing his mother a well. Abimelech makes a treaty with Abraham at Beersheba, where Abraham gives him seven sheep as a sign of their truce.



TOPICS IN THE PARSHA

THIS WEEKS TORAH PARASHAT

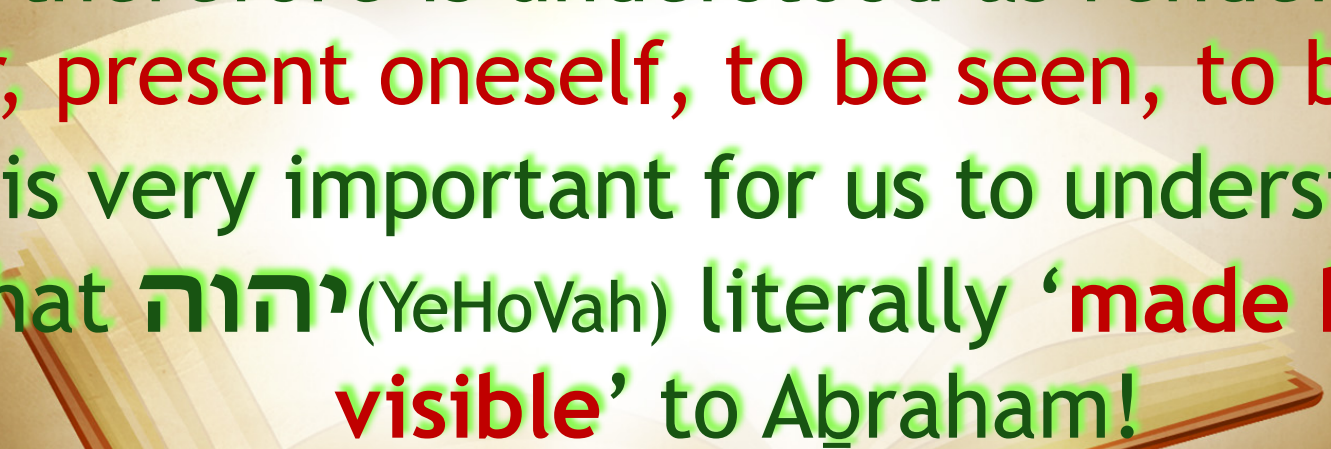
Elohim 9th test for Abraham's devotion by commanding him to sacrifice Isaac on Mount Moriah (the Temple Mount) in Jerusalem. Isaac is bound and placed on the altar, and Abraham raises the knife to slaughter his son. A voice from heaven calls to stop him; a ram, caught in the undergrowth by its horns, is offered in Isaac's place. Abraham receives the news of the birth of a daughter, Rebecca, to his nephew Bethuel.

This week's Torah portion is called Vayyēra, which means, “And יהוה (YeHoVah) appeared”.

After Abraham had done as commanded and circumcised all the males in his house, we see once again that יהוה (YeHoVah) ‘appeared’ to Abraham.

The Hebrew word that is used here for ‘and He appeared’ is וַיֵּרָא - ‘vayyerah’ and comes from the root word רָאָה ra’ah (raw-aw’)- Strong’s H7200 which means, ‘to see, look, observe, pay close attention, consider, appear, provide’.

This verb is written in the 'niph'al passive' tense and therefore is understood as rendering, 'to appear, present oneself, to be seen, to be visible'. What is very important for us to understand here is that **יהוה** (YeHoVah) literally '**made himself visible**' to Abraham!



Gen 18:1 And יהוה appeared to him by the terebinth trees of Mamrě, while he was sitting in the tent door in the heat of the day.

