

TORAH TEACHINGS



Understanding YAH's Likes and dislikes



#13 Shemot (שְׁמוֹת)
— Hebrew for “names,”

Torah: Exodus 1:1-6:1
Haftarah: Isaiah 27:6-28:13;
29:22-23

THIS WEEKS TORAH PARASHAT

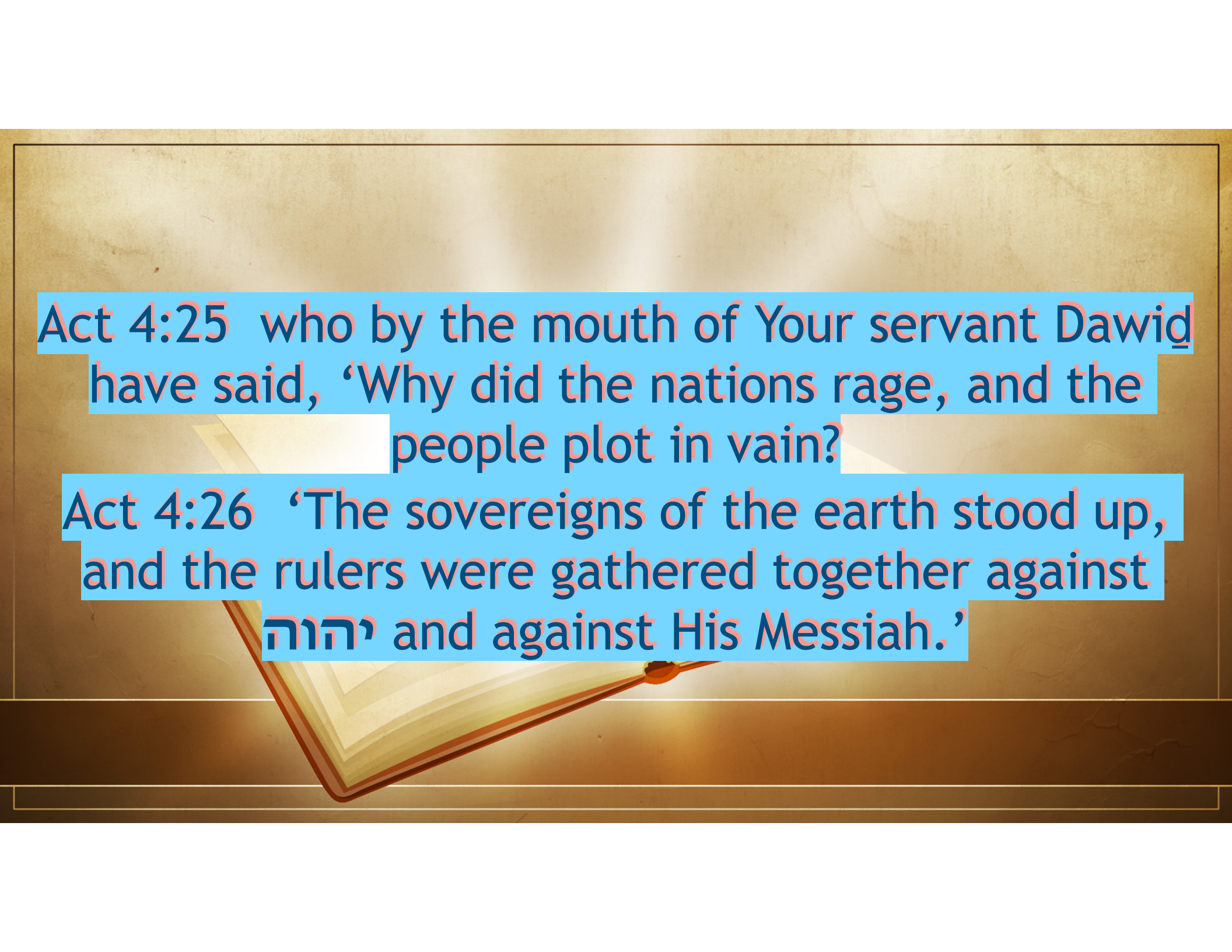
The result of the persecution in Mitzrayim was that the people cried out to Yah and “He looked upon them and acknowledged them” (2:25). In stating that He knew their situation, the word used is from a root which indicates a depth of knowledge akin to marriage relationship - hence an intimacy based on His covenant with them which He was about to keep. This cry was the cause for great manifestations of power during the exodus. Supernatural acts of power are a result of our sacrifice to Yah.

THIS WEEKS TORAH PARASHAT

In the Apostolic era we see that there were positive results from the pressure that the congregation in Jerusalem was under. It caused them to pray fervently. Instead of praying to be delivered from the oppression, they prayed for power to resist and to increase in the midst of it. Our response to persecution is not to run and hide, but rather to increase and to spread the Torah and the message of the Messiah Yeshua in the power of the Spirit even more. Acts 4:24-31; 8:1b, 4

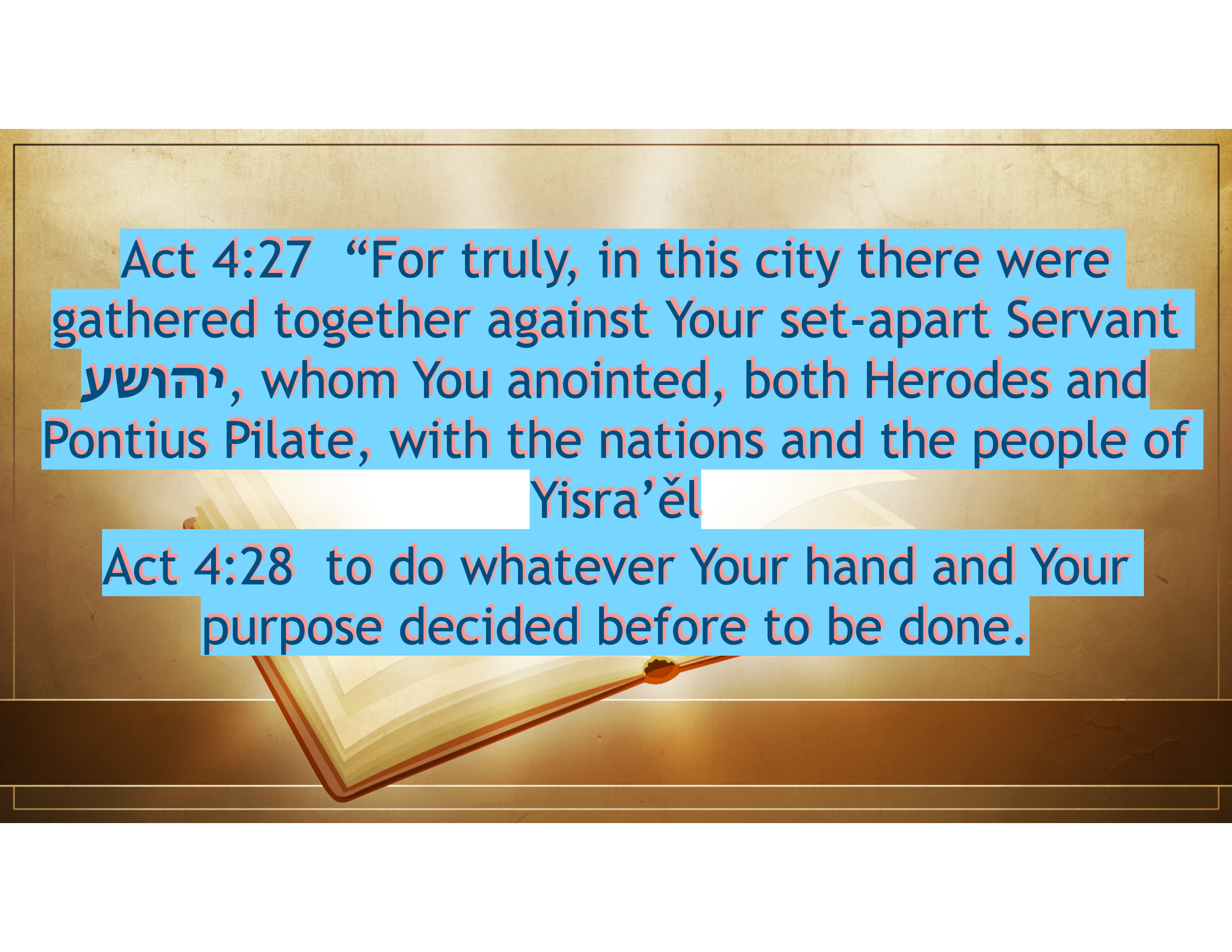
Act 4:23 And having been released, they went to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and elders said to them.

Act 4:24 And having heard that, they lifted up their voice to Elohim with one mind and said, “יהוה, You are Elohim, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and all that is in them,

The background of the slide features a warm, golden-brown color palette. At the bottom, there is a stylized illustration of an open book with a quill pen resting on its pages. The text is presented in two blue rectangular boxes with a thin white border. The text within these boxes is in a dark blue font, with certain words highlighted in red. The overall aesthetic is that of a religious or historical document.

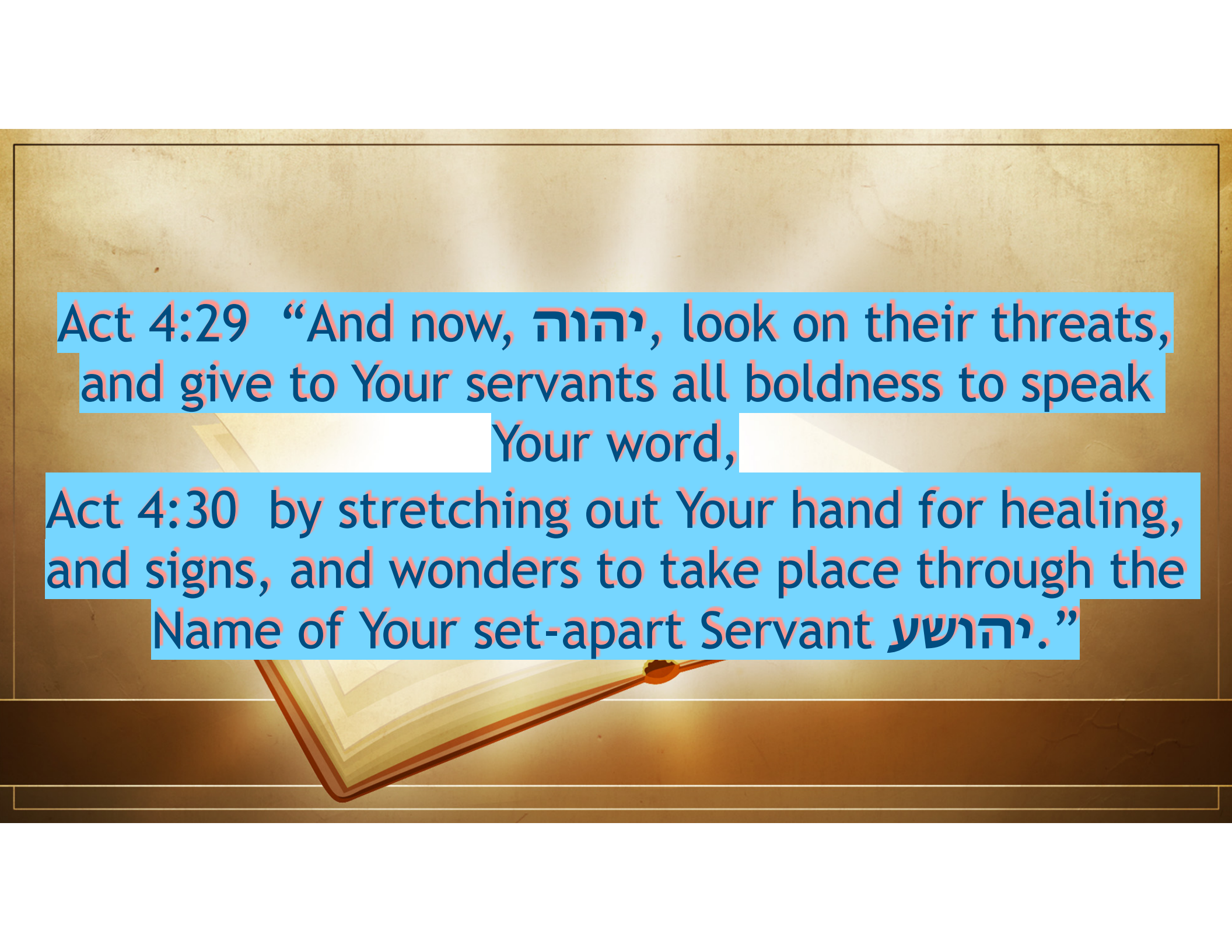
Act 4:25 who by the mouth of Your servant Dawid have said, ‘Why did the nations rage, and the people plot in vain?’

Act 4:26 ‘The sovereigns of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against יהוה and against His Messiah.’



Act 4:27 “For truly, in this city there were gathered together against Your set-apart Servant יהושע, whom You anointed, both Herodes and Pontius Pilate, with the nations and the people of Yisra’ěl

Act 4:28 to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose decided before to be done.



Act 4:29 “And now, יהוה, look on their threats,
and give to Your servants all boldness to speak
Your word,

Act 4:30 by stretching out Your hand for healing,
and signs, and wonders to take place through the
Name of Your set-apart Servant יהושע.”

Act 4:31 And when they had prayed, the place where they came together was shaken. And they were all filled with the Set-apart Spirit, and they spoke the word of Elohim with boldness.



Act 8:1 And Sha'ul was giving approval to his death. And on that day there was a great persecution against the assembly which was at Yerushalayim, and they were all scattered throughout the countries of Yehudah and Shomeron, except the emissaries.

Act 8:2 And dedicated men buried Stephanos, and made great lamentation over him.

Act 8:3 But Sha'ul was ravaging the assembly, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, putting them in prison.

Act 8:4 Then those who had been scattered went everywhere bringing the Good News: the Word!



THIS WEEKS TORAH PARASHAT

We should not fear persecution, because it is a tool that helps us to increase. When there is no opposition we can easily become lax in our commitment and dedication to Yah. Conflicts and persecution keep us constantly alert and cause us to be dependent on our heavenly Father. Don't defend yourself when you are slandered, but increase!

“Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Messiah Yeshua will suffer persecution.” (2 Timothy 3:12-17)

Verse 2-3 - The burning bush

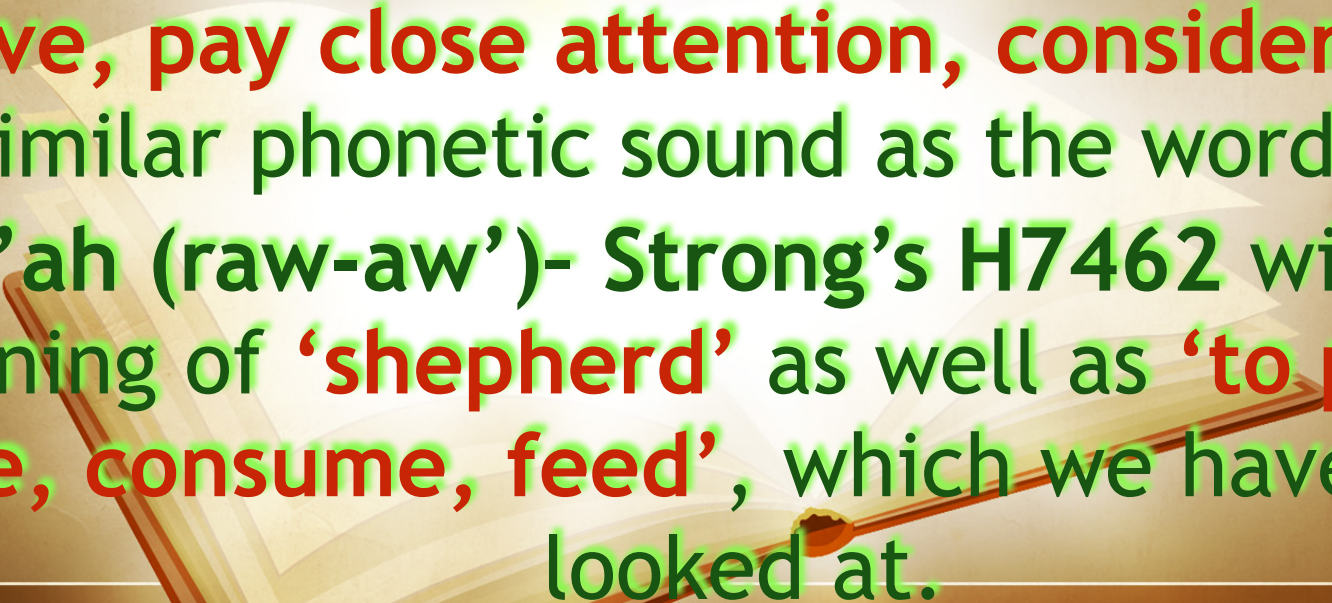
The Messenger 'appeared' to Mosheh in a flame of fire!

The phrase is literally rendered 'and he appeared - the messenger of יהוה' and the phrase 'and He appeared' is written in the Hebrew text as וַיֵּרָא vayyeraḥ, which 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 literally 'made himself visible' to Mosheh!

In Hebrew, the root word רָאָה ra'ah (raw-aw')- Strong's H7200 which means, 'to see, look, observe, pay close attention, consider', has the similar phonetic sound as the word רָעָה ra'ah (raw-aw')- Strong's H7462 with the meaning of 'shepherd' as well as 'to pasture, graze, consume, feed', which we have already looked at.




Yet, we take note that this root word for ‘see, appear, look’ contains a different letter!

Instead of an ‘ע’ ayin it contains the letter ‘א’ aleph, and so, in the ancient pictographic script, the root word **הָאָרָא** ra’ah (raw-aw’)- Strong’s H7200 would look like this:



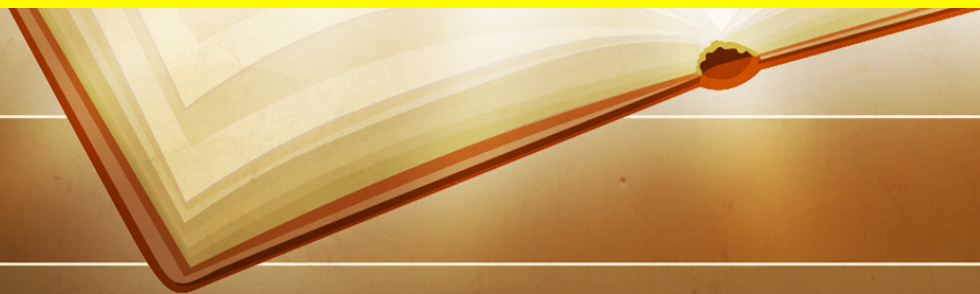
Aleph - א

The ancient pictographic script has this letter pictured as , which is 'the head of an ox', and represents 'strength', meaning 'muscle' as the ox is the strongest of the livestock animals.

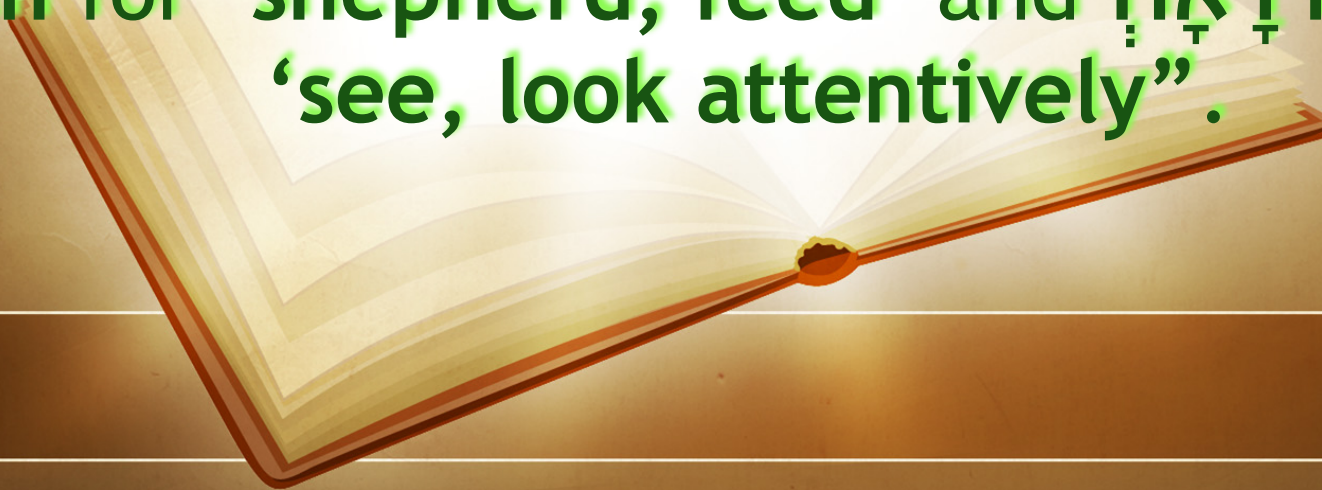
This also carries the meaning of 'yoke', as an ox is placed in a yoke in order to plough or pull a heavy load in the right direction. This can also picture for us the 'red heifer' sacrifice, that יהושע Messiah fulfilled!

To see and be functional in seeing, as we should,
can render the following meaning for us:

**THE BEGINNING OF OUR STRENGTH
IS IN THE REVELATION OF MESSIAH OUR HEAD,
WHO WE PRAISE AND SERVE WITH OUR ALL**



So, what we take note of is that, in Hebrew, we have two similar sounding words - רָעָהּ ra'ah for 'shepherd, feed' and רָאָהּ ra'ah for 'see, look attentively".



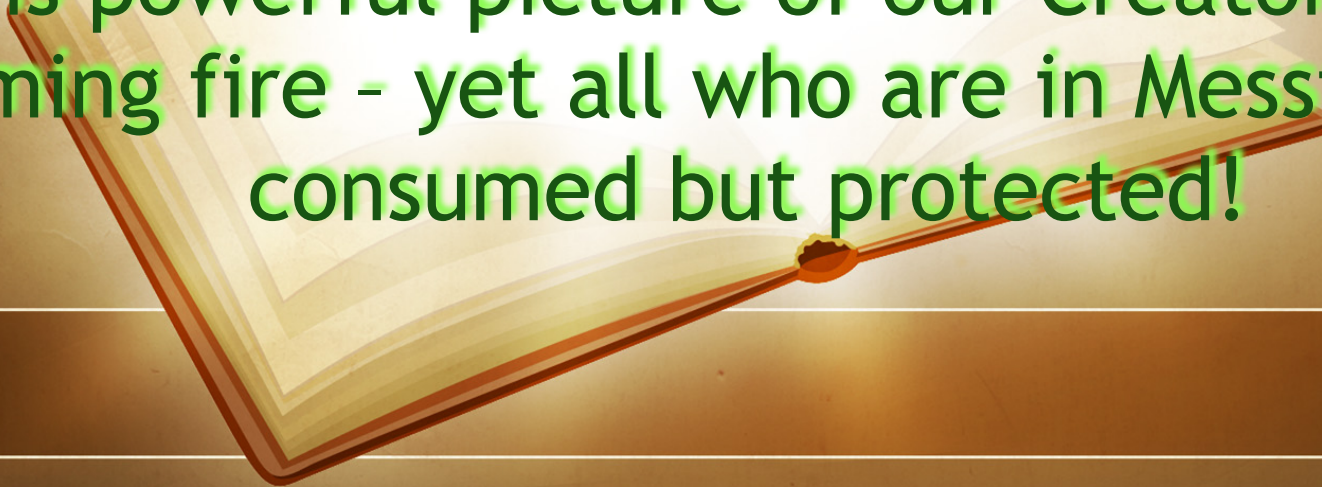
What we are able to recognize, in the Hebrew text, is that the Shepherd unto whom we are to keep our eyes fixed on, in order that we are not be led astray by falsehood and lies, is יהושע - Our Good Shepherd - Our Strong Head that was lifted up and exalted on High and is the One who dwells between the kerubim:

Tehillah/Psalm 80:1 “Give ear, O Shepherd of Yisra’ěl, who leads Yosēph like a flock; who dwells between the kerubim, shine forth!”

יהושע Ro'eh (Shepherd) of יִשְׂרָאֵל (Yisra'ěl)

The Good Shepherd appeared to Mosheh, who was now a shepherd, in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush that was not consumed!

This is powerful picture of our Creator who is a consuming fire - yet all who are in Messiah are not consumed but protected!



The Messenger being in a flame of fire can also cause us to think of another event where the Messenger of יהוה when up to the heavens in a flame of fire after having spoken to the parents of Shimshon, telling them they would have a son:

