

6:2-9:35 Va'era, "And I appeared"

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Va'era Hebrew paragraph divisions

- 6:2-9 {p} YHVH to reveal the meaning of His name by redeeming Israel from Egypt
- 6:10-12 {p} Speak to Pharaoh + How shall he heed me? (Moses' question)
- 6:13 {s} YHVH commanded Israel and Pharaoh, through Moses and Aaron
- 6:14-28 {s} Moses and Aaron the seed of Levi
- 6:29-30 {p} I am YHVH (YHVH's answer)
- 7:1-7 {p} Moses to tell the word of YHVH to Pharaoh + Pharaoh will not heed
- 7:8-13 {s} Aaron's rod becomes a serpent + magicians' rods become serpents
- 7:14-18 {s} Warning re: the river will become blood
- 7:19-25 {p} The river becomes blood + magicians did also
- 8:1-15 {s} The plague of frogs + magicians did also
- 8:16-19 {s} The plague of lice + magicians could not do also
- 8:20-32 {p} The plague of flies + no flies in Goshen
- 9:1-7 {p} The plague of pestilence on the cattle
- 9:8-12 {s} The plague of boils
- 9:13-21 {p} Warning re: the plague of hail
- 9:22-35 {p} The plague of hail

Va'era Summary

- 1A) 6:2-9 {p}** YHVH to reveal the meaning of His name by **GREAT JUDGMENTS**;
- 1B) 6:10-12A** Moses to **TELL PHARAOH TO LET ISRAEL GO** + the children of Israel have **NOT HEADED MOSES**;
- 1C) 6:12B HOW SHALL PHARAOH HEED ME**;
- 1D) 6:12C {p}** I am of **UNCIRCUMCISED LIPS**;
- 1E) 6:13 {s}** YHVH gave **MOSES + AARON A COMMAND FOR PHARAOH**, to bring the children of Israel out;
- 1F) 6:14-15 HEADS OF THE FATHERS' HOUSES** of Reuben + Simeon;
- CENTRAL AXIS) 6:16-25A THE SEED OF LEVI**;
- 2F) 6:25B HEADS OF THE FATHERS' HOUSES** of Levi;
- 2E) 6:26-28 {s}** The same **MOSES + AARON** to whom YHVH said, **SPEAK TO PHARAOH** to bring Israel out;
- 2D) 6:29-30A** Moses of **UNCIRCUMCISED LIPS**;
- 2C) 6:30B {p}** **HOW SHALL PHARAOH HEED ME?**

2B) 7:1-7 {p} Moses to **TELL PHARAOH TO LET ISRAEL GO** + Pharaoh will **NOT HEED MOSES**;

2A) 7:8-9:35 {10 parshas} Miraculous signs + **SEVEN PLAGUES**.

Va'era Chiastic structure

1A) 6:2-9 YHVH to reveal the meaning of His name by **GREAT JUDGMENTS**;

1a) 6:2a And **God spoke to Moses**, and said to him;

1b) 6:2b **I am YHVH**;

1c) 6:3-5 And I appeared **to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob**, as God Almighty *El Shaddai*, but by My name YHVH I was not known to them. **4** And **I have also established My covenant** with them, **to give them the land** of Canaan, the land of their sojournings, where they sojourned. **5** And moreover I have heard the groaning of the children of Israel, whom the Egyptians keep in bondage; and I have remembered My covenant;

1d) 6:6 Therefore say to the children of Israel: **I am YHVH**, and **I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians**, and I will deliver you from their bondage, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm, and with great judgments;

central axis) 6:7a And **I will take you to Me for My people, and I will be to you your God**;

2d) 6:7b And you shall know that **I am YHVH** your God, **who brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians**;

2c) 6:8a And I will bring you into the land, concerning which **I lifted up My hand** to give it **to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob**; and **I will give it you** for a heritage;

2b) 6:8b **I am YHVH**;

2a) 6:9 And **Moses spoke** thus **to the children of Israel**; but they did not heed him, because of impatience of spirit, and their cruel bondage; **{p}**

1B) 6:10-12A And YHVH spoke to Moses, saying: **11** Go in, **SPEAK TO PHARAOH** king of Egypt, that he **LET THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL GO** out of his land. And Moses spoke before YHVH, saying: Behold, the children of **ISRAEL HAVE NOT LISTENED TO ME**;

1C) 6:12B **HOW** then **SHALL PHARAOH HEAR ME**;

1D) 6:12C Who am of **UNCIRCUMCISED LIPS**? **{p}**

1E) 6:13 And **YHVH** spoke to Moses and to Aaron, and **GAVE THEM A CHARGE** to the children of Israel, and **TO PHARAOH** king of Egypt, to bring the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt; **{s}**

1F) 6:14-15 These are the **HEADS OF THEIR FATHERS' HOUSES**: the sons of Reuben the first-born of Israel: Hanoch, and Pallu, Hezron,

and Carmi. These are the families of Reuben. **15** And the sons of Simeon: Jemuel, and Jamin, and Ohad, and Jachin, and Zohar, and Shaul the son of a Canaanitish woman. These are the families of Simeon;

CENTRAL AXIS) 6:16-25A And these are the names of **THE SONS OF LEVI** according to their generations: Gershon and Kohath, and Merari. And the years of the life of Levi were a hundred thirty-seven years. **17** The sons of Gershon: Libni and Shimei, according to their families. **18** And the sons of Kohath: Amram, and Izhar, and Hebron, and Uzziel. And the years of the life of Kohath were a hundred thirty-three years. **19** And the sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi. These are the families of the Levites according to their generations. **20** And Amram took Jochebed, his father's sister, to wife; and she bore him Aaron and Moses. And the years of the life of Amram were a hundred and thirty- seven years. **21** And the sons of Izhar: Korah, and Nepheg, and Zichri. **22** And the sons of Uzziel: Mishael, and Elzaphan, and Sithri. **23** And Aaron took Elisheba, the daughter of Amminadab, the sister of Nahshon, to wife; and she bore him Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar. **24** And the sons of Korah: Assir, and Elkanah, and Abiasaph; these are the families of the Korahites. **25** And Eleazar Aaron's son took one of the daughters of Putiel to wife; and she bore him Phinehas;

2F) 6:25B These are the **HEADS OF THE FATHERS' HOUSES** of the Levites according to their families;

2E) 6:26-28 The same **MOSES AND AARON** to whom YHVH said, **SPEAK TO PHARAOH** to bring Israel out;

1a.1) 6:26a These are that **Aaron and Moses**;

1a.2) 6:26b To whom YHVH said;

1b) 6:26c 'Bring out the children of Israel from the land of Egypt according to their hosts;'

central axis) 6:27a These are they that spoke to Pharaoh king of Egypt;

2b) 6:27b To bring out the children of Israel from Egypt;

2a.1) 6:27c These are that **Moses and Aaron**;

2a.2) 6:28 And it came to pass on the day when YHVH spoke to Moses in the land of Egypt; {s}

2D) 6:29-30A That YHVH spoke to Moses, saying: I am YHVH; speak to Pharaoh king of Egypt all that I speak to you. **30** And Moses said before the LORD: Behold, I am of **UNCIRCUMCISED LIPS**;

2C) 6:30B And **HOW SHALL PHARAOH HEAR ME?** {p}

2B) 7:1-7 Moses to **TELL PHARAOH TO LET ISRAEL GO** + Pharaoh will **NOT HEAR HIM**;

1a) 7:1-2a And YHVH said to Moses: See, I have set you in God's stead to Pharaoh; and Aaron your brother shall be your prophet. **2** You shall speak all that I command you; and Aaron your brother shall **speak to Pharaoh**;

1b) 7:2b-4 That he **let the children of Israel go** out of his land. **3** And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and multiply My signs and My wonders in the land of Egypt. **4** But **Pharaoh will not hear you**, and **I will lay My hand on Egypt**, and **bring forth** My hosts, My people **the children of Israel**, out of the land of Egypt, by great judgments;

central axis) 7:5a And the Egyptians shall know that I am YHVH;

2b) 7:5b When I stretch forth My hand on Egypt, and bring out the children of Israel from among them;

2a) 7:6-7 And Moses and Aaron did so; as YHVH commanded them, so they did. **7** And Moses was eighty years old, and Aaron eighty-three years old, when **they spoke to Pharaoh**; {p}

2A) 7:8-9:35 Miraculous signs + **SEVEN PLAGUES**;

1a) 7:8-13 {s} The first wonder of YHVH;

1a) 7:8 And **YHVH spoke** to Moses and to Aaron, saying;

1b) 7:9a When **Pharaoh shall speak to you**, saying: **Show a wonder** for yourselves;

1c) 7:9b Then you shall say to Aaron: Take your rod, and **cast it down before Pharaoh**, that **it may become a serpent**;

central axis) 7:10a And Moses and Aaron went in to Pharaoh, and they did so, as YHVH had commanded;

2c) 7:10b And Aaron **cast down his rod before Pharaoh** and before his servants, and **it became a serpent**;

2b) 7:11-12 Then **Pharaoh also called for the wise men and the sorcerers**; and **they also**, the magicians of Egypt, **did in like manner** with their secret arts. For they cast down every man his rod, and they became serpents; but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods;

2a) 7:13 And Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he did not hearken to them; as **YHVH had spoken**; {s}

1b) 7:14-18 {s} Warning: the river will become blood;

1a) 7:14a And YHVH said to Moses: **Pharaoh's heart is stubborn**;

1b) 7:14b He refuses to **let the people go**;

1c) 7:15a **Go to Pharaoh in the morning**; lo, he goes out to the water; and you shall stand by the river's bank to meet him;

central axis) 7:15b *And the rod which was turned to a serpent you shall take in your hand;*

2c) 7:16a And you shall say to him: **YHVH**, the God of the Hebrews, *has sent me to you*, saying;

2b) 7:16b *Let My people go*, that they may serve Me in the wilderness;

2a) 7:16c-18 And, behold, until now **you have not hearkened**; **17** thus says YHVH: In this you shall know that I am YHVH—behold, with the rod that is in my hand I will strike the waters which are in the river, and they shall be turned to blood. And the fish that are in the river shall die, and the river shall become foul; and the Egyptians shall be loathe to drink water from the river; **{s}**

1c) 7:19-25 {p} The river becomes blood;

1a) 7:19-20 The water becomes blood after **Aaron struck the river**;

1A.1) 7:19A And YHVH said to Moses: Say to Aaron: **TAKE YOUR ROD**, and **STRETCH OUT YOUR HAND OVER THE WATERS OF EGYPT**, **OVER THEIR RIVERS**, over their streams, and over their pools, and over all their ponds of water;

1A.2) 7:19B **THAT THEY MAY BECOME BLOOD**; and there shall be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, both in vessels of wood and in vessels of stone;

CENTRAL AXIS) 7:20A **AND MOSES AND AARON DID SO, AS YHVH COMMANDED**;

2A.1) 7:20B And **HE LIFTED UP THE ROD**, and **STRUCK THE WATERS THAT WERE IN THE RIVER**, in the sight of Pharaoh, and in the sight of his servants;

2A.2) 7:20C And **ALL THE WATERS THAT WERE IN THE RIVER WERE TURNED TO BLOOD**;

1b) 7:21 And the fish that were in the river died; and the river became foul, and **the Egyptians could not drink water from the river**; and the blood was throughout all the land of Egypt;

1c) 7:22a And the magicians of Egypt did in like manner with their secret arts; and **Pharaoh's heart was hardened**;

central axis) 7:22b *And he hearkened not to them; as YHVH had spoken*;

2c) 7:23 And Pharaoh turned and went into his house, **neither did he lay even this to heart**;

2b) 7:24 And all **the Egyptians** dug round about the river for water to drink; for they **could not drink of the water of the river**;

2a) 7:25 And seven days were fulfilled, after **YHVH had struck the river**; **{p}**

1d) 8:1-19 {s+s} The plague of frogs and gnats;

1a) 8:1-15a The **plague of frogs**;

1A) 8:1-4 And YHVH spoke to Moses: Go in to Pharaoh, and say to him: Thus says YHVH: Let My people go, that they may serve Me. And if you refuse to let them go, behold, I will **SMITE ALL YOUR BORDERS WITH FROGS**. And the river shall swarm with frogs, which shall go up and come into your house, and into your bedchamber, and on your bed, and into the house of your servants, and on your people, and into your ovens, and into your kneading bowls. And the frogs shall come up both on you, and on your people, and on all your servants;

1B) 8:5-7 And YHVH said to Moses: Say to Aaron: Stretch forth your hand with your rod over the rivers, over the canals, and over the pools, and cause frogs to come up on the land of Egypt. And Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt; and **THE FROGS CAME UP, AND COVERED THE LAND OF EGYPT**. And the magicians did in like manner with their secret arts, and brought up frogs on the land of Egypt;

1C) 8:8 Then **PHARAOH CALLED FOR MOSES AND AARON**, and said: **ENTREAT YHVH**, that He take away the frogs from me, and from my people; and I will let the people go, that they may sacrifice to YHVH;

1D) 8:9 And Moses said to Pharaoh: Have this glory over me; what time shall I entreat for you, and for your servants, and for your people, that **THE FROGS BE DESTROYED FROM YOU AND YOUR HOUSES**, and **REMAIN IN THE RIVER ONLY**?

CENTRAL AXIS) 8:10 AND HE SAID: FOR TOMORROW. AND HE SAID: BE IT ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD; THAT YOU MAY KNOW THAT THERE IS NONE LIKE YHVH OUR GOD;

2D) 8:11 And **THE FROGS SHALL DEPART FROM YOU, AND FROM YOUR HOUSES**, and from your servants, and from your people; they shall **REMAIN IN THE RIVER ONLY**;

2C) 8:12 And **MOSES AND AARON WENT OUT FROM PHARAOH**; and **MOSES CRIED TO YHVH** concerning the frogs, which He had brought on Pharaoh;

2B) 8:13-14 And YHVH did according to the word of Moses; and **THE FROGS DIED OUT** of the houses, out of the courts, and out of the fields. And they gathered them together in heaps; and the land stank;

2A) 8:15A But when Pharaoh saw that there was **A RESPITE**;

1b) 8:15b *He hardened his heart*, and *hearkened not to them*; as YHVH had spoken; {s}

2a) 8:16-18 The *plague of gnats*;

1A) 8:16-17 And YHVH said to Moses: Say to Aaron: Stretch out your rod, and smite the dust of the earth, that it may become gnats

throughout all the land of Egypt. 17 And they did so; And Aaron stretched out his hand with his rod, and smote the dust of the earth; and **THERE WERE GNATS UPON MAN**, and **UPON BEAST**; all the dust of the earth became gnats throughout all the land of Egypt;

CENTRAL AXIS) 8:18A AND THE MAGICIANS DID SO WITH THEIR SECRET ARTS TO BRING FORTH GNATS, BUT THEY COULD NOT;

2A) 8:18B And THERE WERE GNATS UPON MAN, and UPON BEAST;

2b) 8:19 Then the magicians said to Pharaoh: This is the finger of God; but *Pharaoh's heart was hardened*, and he *hearkened not to them*; as YHVH had spoken; {s}

central axis) 8:20-32 {p}YHVH set apart His people: no flies in Goshen;

1a.1) 8:20 And YHVH said to Moses: Rise up early in the morning, and stand before Pharaoh; lo, he will come forth to the water; and say to him: Thus says YHVH: *Let My people go*, that they may serve Me;

1a.2) 8:21-24 Fourth plague: *swarms of flies upon Pharaoh, his servants, and people*;

1A) 8:21 Else, if you will not let My people go, behold, I will send **SWARMS OF FLIES** upon **YOU**, and upon **YOUR SERVANTS**, and upon your **PEOPLE**, and **INTO YOUR HOUSES**; and the houses of the Egyptians shall be full of swarms of flies, and also the ground on which they stand;

1B) 8:22A And I will **SET APART IN THAT DAY THE LAND** of Goshen, **WHEREIN MY PEOPLE DWELL**, that no swarms of flies shall be there;

CENTRAL AXIS) 8:22B SO THAT YOU MAY KNOW THAT I AM YHVH IN THE MIDST OF THE EARTH;

2B) 8:23 And I will **PUT A DIVISION BETWEEN MY PEOPLE AND YOUR PEOPLE**. By **TOMORROW** shall this sign be;

2A) 8:24 And YHVH did so; and there came grievous **SWARMS OF FLIES INTO THE HOUSE OF PHARAOH**, and into **HIS SERVANTS' HOUSES**; and in all the land of Egypt the land was ruined by reason of the swarms of flies;

1b) 8:25a And *Pharaoh* called for Moses and for Aaron, and *said*: *Go, sacrifice to your God*;

1c) 8:25b *In the land*;

central axis) 8:26 *And Moses said: It is not seemly so to do; for we shall sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians to YHVH our God; lo, if we sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians before their eyes, will they not stone us?*

2c) 8:27 We will go three days' journey **into the wilderness**, and sacrifice to YHVH our God, as He shall command us;
2b) 8:28 And **Pharaoh said: I will let you go**, that you may **sacrifice to YHVH your God** in the wilderness; only you shall not go very far away; entreat for me;
2a.2) 8:29a And Moses said: Behold, I go out from you, and I will entreat YHVH that the **swarms of flies** may depart from **Pharaoh**, from **his servants**, and from his **people**, tomorrow;
2a.1) 8:29b Only let not Pharaoh deal deceitfully any more in **not letting the people go** to sacrifice to YHVH;
2a.2 repeated) 8:30-31 And Moses went out from Pharaoh, and entreated YHVH. And YHVH did according to the word of Moses; and He removed the **swarms of flies** from **Pharaoh**, from **his servants**, and from his **people**; there remained not one;
2a.1 repeated) 8:32 And Pharaoh hardened his heart this time also, and he did **not let the people go**; {p}

2d) 9:1-7 {p} The plague of pestilence on the cattle;

1a) 9:1 Then YHVH said to Moses: Go in to Pharaoh, and tell him: Thus says YHVH, the God of the Hebrews: **Let My people go**, that they may serve Me;
1b) 9:2 For **if you refuse** to let them go, and will hold them still;
1c.1) 9:3 Behold, **the hand of YHVH is upon your cattle** which are in the field, upon the horses, upon the donkeys, upon the camels, upon the herds, and upon the flocks; **there shall be a very grievous pestilence**;
1c.2) 9:4 And YHVH shall make a division between the cattle of Israel and the cattle of Egypt; and **there shall die nothing of all that belongs to the children of Israel**;
central axis) 9:5-6a And **YHVH appointed a set time, saying: Tomorrow YHVH shall do this thing in the land. And YHVH did that thing on the morrow**;
2c.1) 9:6b And **all the cattle of Egypt died**;
2c.2) 9:6c-7a But **of the cattle of the children of Israel, not one died**. And Pharaoh sent, and, behold, **there was not so much as one of the cattle of the Israelites dead**;
2b) 9:7b But the heart of Pharaoh was **stubborn**;
2a) 9:7c And **he did not let the people go**; {p}

2c) 9:8-12 {s} The plague of boils;

1a) 9:8a And **YHVH said to Moses** and to Aaron;
1b.1) 9:8b Take handfuls of **soot of the furnace**;
1b.2) 9:8c And **let Moses throw it heavenward** in the sight of Pharaoh;
1b.3) 9:9a And **it shall become** small dust over all the land of Egypt, and shall be **a boil breaking forth with sores on man and on beast**;

central axis) 9:9b Throughout all the land of Egypt;

2b.1) 9:10a And they **took soot of the furnace;**

2b.2) 9:10b And stood before Pharaoh; and **Moses threw it up heavenward;**

2b.3) 9:10c-11 And **it became a boil breaking forth with sores on man and on beast.** And the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils; for the boils were on the magicians, and on all the Egyptians;

2a) 9:12 And YHVH hardened the heart of Pharaoh, and he hearkened not unto them; as **YHVH had spoken to Moses; {s}**

2b) 9:13-21 {p} Warning: the plague of hail;

1a.1) 9:13 And YHVH said to Moses: Rise up early in the morning, and stand before Pharaoh, and say to him: Thus says YHVH, the God of the Hebrews: **Let My people go,** that they may serve Me;

1a.2) 9:14a For **I will** this time **send all My plagues** on your person, and on your servants, and on your people;

1b) 9:14b That you may know that **there is none like Me in all the earth;**
central axis) 9:15 Surely by now, had I put forth My hand, and smitten you and your people with pestilence, you would have been cut off from the earth;

2b) 9:16-17a And that **My name may be declared throughout all the earth;**

1A) 9:16A But in very deed for this cause **I HAVE MADE YOU TO STAND;**
CENTRAL AXIS) 9:16B TO SHOW YOU MY POWER, AND THAT MY NAME MAY BE DECLARED THROUGHOUT ALL THE EARTH;

2A) 9:17A As yet **DO YOU EXALT YOURSELF** against My people;

2a.1) 9:17b That **you will not let them go?**

2a.2) 9:18-21 Behold, tomorrow about this time **I will cause it to rain a very grievous hail,** such as has not been in Egypt since the day it was founded even until now. Now therefore send, hasten to bring in your cattle and all that you have in the field; for every man and beast that shall be found in the field, and shall not be brought home, the hail shall come down upon them, and they shall die. He that feared the word of YHVH among the servants of Pharaoh made his servants and his cattle flee into the houses; and he that regarded not the word of YHVH left his servants and his cattle in the field; **{p}**

2a) 9:22-35 {p} The plague of hail;

1a) 9:22-25 The **plague of hail came upon Egypt;**

1A) 9:22 Then YHVH said to Moses: Stretch forth your hand toward heaven, that there may be **HAIL IN ALL THE LAND OF EGYPT, ON MAN, and ON BEAST, and ON EVERY HERB OF THE FIELD,** throughout the land of Egypt;

1B) 9:23A And Moses stretched forth his rod toward heaven; and YHVH sent **THUNDER AND HAIL**, and **FIRE RAN DOWN TO THE EARTH**;
CENTRAL AXIS) 9:23B AND YHVH RAINED HAIL ON THE LAND OF EGYPT;
2B) 9:24 So there was **HAIL**, and **FIRE FLASHING IN THE MIDST OF THE HAIL**, very grievous, such as had not been in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation;
2A) 9:25 And the **HAIL STRUCK THROUGHOUT ALL THE LAND OF EGYPT**, all that was in the field, **BOTH MAN AND BEAST**; and the hail struck **EVERY HERB OF THE FIELD** and broke every tree of the field;

1b) 9:26a Only in the land of Goshen;

central axis) 9:26b Where the children of Israel were;

2b) 9:26c Was there no hail;

2a) 9:27-35 The **plague of hail ceased from Egypt** when Pharaoh repented;

1A) 9:27 And Pharaoh sent and called for Moses and Aaron, and said to them: **I HAVE SINNED THIS TIME**. YHVH is righteous, and **MY PEOPLE AND I** are wicked;

1B) 9:28A **ENTREAT YHVH**, and let there be **NO MORE OF THESE MIGHTY THUNDERINGS AND HAIL**;

CENTRAL AXIS) 9:28B **I WILL LET YOU GO, AND YOU SHALL STAY NO LONGER**;

2B) 9:29-33 Moses **ENTREATED YHVH** and the **THUNDER AND THE HAIL CEASED**;

1a) 9:29-30 And Moses said to him: **As soon as I am gone out of the city**, I will **spread forth my hands to YHVH**; the **thunders shall cease**, neither shall **there be any more hail**; that you may know that the earth is YHVH's. But as for you and your servants, I know that you do not yet fear YHVH God;

1b) 9:31a And **the flax and the barley were struck**;

central axis) 9:31b **For the barley was in the head, and the flax was in bloom**;

2b) 9:32 But **the wheat and the spelt were not struck**; for they ripen late;

2a) 9:33 And **Moses went out of the city** from Pharaoh, and **spread forth his hands to YHVH**; and the **thunders and hail ceased**, and the rain was not poured on the earth;

2A) 9:34-35 And when Pharaoh saw that the rain and the hail and the thunders had ceased, **HE SINNED YET MORE**, and hardened his heart, **HE AND HIS SERVANTS**. And the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, and he did not let the children of Israel go; as YHVH had spoken by Moses. {p}