

# Parshas Va'eira

## FRIDAY NIGHT, JANUARY 16

- » Mincha/Kabalas Shabbos/Maariv 5:25 PM
- » Candles 5:26 PM
- » Sunset 5:44 PM

## SHABBOS DAY, JANUARY 17

- » **Shacharis 8 AM followed by Kiddush at the home of Rabbi & Rebbetzin Rich, 7119 Bremerton Ct. Men & Women are encouraged to come.**
- » 15-min Pirkei Avos Shiur for Women and Kedushas Levi Chabura for Men following Kiddush
- » **Chassidus in the Parsha** with Rabbi Yaakov Rich in shul 4 PM
- » Women & Children S"S at Rich Canceled this Shabbos
- » Mincha 5:15 PM
- » Sunset 5:45 PM
- » Maariv 6:27 PM
- » Shabbos Ends (50 min) 6:35 PM
- » Rabbeinu Tam (72 min) 6:57 PM

**A WISE MAN WOULD SAY: "THE REASON I TALK TO MYSELF IS BECAUSE I'M THE ONLY PERSON WHOSE ANSWERS I WILL ACCEPT."**

## REFUAH SHELAIMA

### Men

- » Daniel Ze'ev ben Miriam (Brother of Josh Rothstein)

### Women

- » Layah Leilech bas Shulamis (Friend of Shira Martin)
- » Devorah bas Heni (Friend of Aviva Bass)
- » Shoshana Gittel bas Chaya Leah (Sister of Naomi Goldberg)

## KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP

- » Kiddush is sponsored by the members of the GKC.

## CTC SCHEDULE OF SHIURIM/TEFILLAH (Week of Jan 18, 2026)

- » Gemara Zevachim, Mon - Fri, 6:00-6:30 AM
- » **Shacharis, 6:30 AM**
- » Amud HaYomi Sanhedrin: Sunday - Friday, 12 -1 PM, On Zoom with Rabbi Yaakov Rich. Email Rabbi Rich for the link.
- » Shemone Perakim 7:30 PM
- » Maariv 8:00 PM
- » Mishnayos Shabbos (Sun-Thur) 8:15 PM

## CONDOLENCES

- » Our deepest condolences to Alan Prager on the loss of his wife, Marcy. During the shul's construction, the next few weeks, services will continue to be held at the home of Rabbi & Rebbetzin Rich, 7119 Bremerton Ct., Dallas 75252. Alan will be attending the minyan to say kaddish. All men are encouraged to help with the miyan.

## TIDBITS

Parshas Va'eira • January 17th • 28 Teves 5786.

This week is Shabbos Mevorchim Chodesh Shevat. Rosh Chodesh is next Monday, January 19th. The molad is Sunday afternoon at 3:06 PM and 11 chalakim.

The first opportunity for Kiddush Levanah is Wednesday night, January 21st. The final opportunity is early Monday morning, February 2nd at 2:07 AM EST.

This week, the week of Parshas Va'eira, is the second week of Shovavim.

Tu Bishvat is on Monday, February 2nd.

Taanis Esther is on Monday, March 2nd.

Purim is on Tuesday, March 3rd.

**VA'EIRA:** Hashem reaffirms to Moshe that He will bring the redemption • An overburdened Klal Yisrael cannot absorb Moshe's message • The descendants of Reuven, Shimon and Levi are listed, leading up to Moshe's lineage • Hashem sends Moshe to Pharaoh • Due to a speech impediment, Moshe attempts to defer the role of primary prophet to his brother, Aharon • Hashem appoints Aharon as Moshe's spokesman • Hashem warns Moshe and Aharon of Pharaoh's obstinacy • Aharon's stick becomes a serpent • Pharaoh's sorcerers duplicate this feat; Aharon's stick swallows theirs • The Makkos begin: Dam (blood), then Tzefardei'a (frogs), then Kinnim (lice) • To escape each Makkah, Pharaoh promises to concede, yet reneges each time • The sorcerers fail to duplicate Makkas Kinnim, and acknowledge that Moshe is empowered by Hashem • With Makkas Arov, Pharaoh offers compromise, allowing sacrifices in Mitzrayim • Moshe insists on leaving Mitzrayim to bring sacrifices • The Makkah of Dever (pestilence) is followed by Shechin (boils) and Barad (hail) • Egyptians who heeded Moshe's warning to shelter their animals are spared • Each Makkah lasts 7 days • Pharaoh appears to surrender, yet retracts when Barad is over.

**Haftarah:** The Navi Yechezkel (Yechezkel 28:25-29:21) relays a prophecy that there will be another episode where an Egyptian Pharaoh will suffer defeat, this time at the hands of Nevuchadnetzar, on account of his failure to come to the aid of the Jewish nation.

Parshas Va'eira: 121 Pesukim • No mitzvos listed

And He commanded them regarding the B'nei Yisrael and regarding Pharaoh the King of Egypt to send out the B'nei Yisrael from the land of Egypt (Shemos 6:13)

The pasuk states that the command to set the Jews free was addressed not only to Pharaoh but to B'nei Yisrael as well. What command did B'nei Yisrael receive regarding their own freedom from Pharaoh?

The Talmud Yerushalmi (Rosh Hashanah 3:5) explains that it was at that juncture that B'nei Yisrael were commanded in the mitzvah of Shiluach Avadim, to release Jewish slaves after a certain period of time. Our pasuk ("to send out the B'nei Yisrael") alludes to this commandment. But why were they given this mitzvah specifically at this time?

The Dubno Maggid presents a parable of a man who sheltered a king from a rebellion. After narrowly saving the king from certain death, the man asked, "Your Majesty, what was going through your mind when the rebels were so close to cap-



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turing you?" The king responded to this question by condemning the man to death for his exceedingly brazen question. The man was brought to the gallows and the noose was placed around his neck. Suddenly, the king ordered the executioner to halt and remove the noose. He tells the 'condemned' man, "Now you have your answer, now you know how I felt!".

The optimal way to perform mitzvos bein adam l'chaveiro is to put oneself in the other person's position and try to understand his needs. And so just now, while the B'nei Yisrael were slaves and anticipating redemption, was the most opportune time for them to understand the mitzvah of Shiluach Avadim, as now they were experiencing the plight of an enslaved person. By contemplating how one would want to be treated, a person will be motivated to perform chessed and other interpersonal mitzvos in their highest forms.