

Shavuot, Day 1, Haftarah, May 26, 2023

Ezekiel 1:1-28

(1) In the thirtieth year, on the fifth day of the fourth month, when I was in the community of exiles by the Chebar Canal, the heavens opened and I saw visions of God.

(2) (On the fifth day of the month—it was the fifth year of the exile of King Jehoiachin— (3) the word of GOD came to the priest Ezekiel son of Buzi, by the Chebar Canal, in the land of the Chaldeans. And the hand of GOD came upon him there.) (4) I looked, and lo, a stormy wind came sweeping out of the north—a huge cloud and flashing fire, surrounded by a radiance; and in the center of it, in the center of the fire, a gleam as of amber. (5) In the center of it were also the figures of four creatures. And this was their appearance: They had the figures of

יחזקאל א'א'כ"ח

(א) וַיְהִי | בַּשְּׁלִישִׁים שָׁנָה בְּרַב־עֵי
בַחֲמִשָּׁה לַחֹדֶשׁ וְאָנִי בְּתוֹךְ־הַגּוֹלָה
עַל־נְהַר־כְּבָר נִפְתְּחוּ הַשָּׁמַיִם
וַאֲרָאָה מְרָאוֹת אֱלֹהִים: (ב)
בַּחֲמִשָּׁה לַחֹדֶשׁ הַיָּא הַשָּׁנָה
הַחֲמִישִׁית לְגָלוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ יוֹיָכִן: (ג)
הִנֵּה הִנֵּה דְבַר־יְהוָה אֶל־יְחִזְקָאל
בֶּן־בוּזִי הַכֹּהֵן בְּאֶרֶץ כַּשְׂדִּים
עַל־נְהַר־כְּבָר וַתְּהִי עָלַי שֵׁם
יְדִי־יְהוָה: (ד) וַאֲרָא וְהִנֵּה רוּחַ
סַעֲרָה בָּאָה מִן־הַצָּפוֹן עָנָן גָּדוֹל
וְאֵשׁ מִתְּלַחַחַת וְנִגְגָה לוֹ סָבִיב
וּמִתּוֹכָהּ כָּעֵין הַחֲשָׁמַל מִתּוֹךְ
הָאֵשׁ: (ה) וּמִתּוֹכָהּ דְמוֹת אַרְבַּע
חַיֹּת וְזֶה מְרָאֵיהֶן דְמוֹת אָדָם
לְהִנָּה: (ו) וְאַרְבַּעַה פָּנִים לְאַחַת
וְאַרְבַּע כַּנְּפִים לְאַחַת לָהֶם: (ז)

human beings. (6) However, each had four faces, and each of them had four wings; (7) the legs of each were [fused into] a single rigid leg, and the feet of each were like a single calf's hoof; and their sparkle was like the luster of burnished bronze. (8) They had human hands below their wings. The four of them had their faces and their wings on their four sides. (9) Each one's wings touched those of the other. They did not turn when they moved; each could move in the direction of any of its faces. (10) Each of them had a human face [at the front]; each of the four had the face of a lion on the right; each of the four had the face of an ox on the left; and each of the four had the face of an eagle [at the back]. (11) Such were their faces. As for their wings, they were separated: above, each had two touching those of the others, while the other two covered its body. (12) And each

וּרְגְלֵיהֶם רֵגֶל יִשְׂרָהּ וְכַף רֵגְלֵיהֶם
כַּכַּף רֵגֶל לְעָל וְנִצְצִים כְּעֵין נְחֹשֶׁת
קָלֵל: (ח) (וידו) [וידני] אָדָם מִתַּחַת
כַּנְפֵיהֶם עַל אַרְבַּעַת רַבְעֵיהֶם
וּפְנֵיהֶם וְכַנְפֵיהֶם לְאַרְבַּעָתָם: (ט)
חִבְרַת אִשָּׁה אֶל־אֲחֹתָהּ כַּנְפֵיהֶם
לֹא־יִסְבוּ בְלִכְתָּן אִישׁ אֶל־עֵבֶר
פָּנָיו יֵלְכוּ: (י) וּדְמוֹת פְּנֵיהֶם פְּנֵי
אָדָם וּפְנֵי אַרְיֵה אֶל־הַיָּמִין
לְאַרְבַּעָתָם וּפְנֵי־שׂוֹר מִהַשְּׂמָאוֹל
לְאַרְבַּעָתָן וּפְנֵי־נֹשֶׁר לְאַרְבַּעָתָן:
(יא) וּפְנֵיהֶם וְכַנְפֵיהֶם פְּרָדוֹת
מִלְמַעְלָה לְאִישׁ שְׁתֵּים חִבְרֹת
אִישׁ וּשְׁתֵּים מְכֹסוֹת אֵת גְּוִיתֵיהֶנָּה:
(יב) וְאִישׁ אֶל־עֵבֶר פָּנָיו יֵלְכוּ אֵל
אֲשֶׁר יִהְיֶה־שָׁמָּה הַרוּחַ לְלֶכֶת
יֵלְכוּ לֹא יִסְבוּ בְלִכְתָּן: (יג) וּדְמוֹת
הַחַיֹּת מֵרְאִיָּהם כְּגַח־לִי־אֵשׁ בְּעֵרוֹת
כְּמֵרְאֵה הַלְּפָדִים הִיא מִתְהַלֶּכֶת
בֵּין הַחַיֹּת וְנֹגֵה לְאֵשׁ וּמִן־הָאֵשׁ
יֹצֵא בָרָק: (יד) וְהַחַיֹּת רָצוּא וְשׂוֹב

could move in the direction of any of its faces; they went wherever the spirit impelled them to go, without turning when they moved. (13)

Such then was the appearance of the creatures. With them was something that looked like burning coals of fire. This fire, suggestive of torches, kept moving about among the creatures; the fire had a radiance, and lightning issued from the fire. (14) Dashing to and fro [among] the creatures was something that looked like flares.

(15) As I gazed on the creatures, I saw one wheel on the ground next to each of the four-faced creatures.

(16) As for the appearance and structure of the wheels, they gleamed like beryl. All four had the same form; the appearance and structure of each was as of two wheels cutting through each other.

(17) And when they moved, each could move in the direction of any of its four quarters; they did not

כְּמֵרָאָה הַבְּזֹק: (טו) וְאָרָא הַחַיִּוֹת
וְהָיָה אֹפֶן אֶחָד בְּאָרְץ אֶצֶל
הַחַיִּוֹת לְאַרְבַּעַת פָּנָיו: (טז) מֵרָאָה
הָאוֹפָנִים וּמַעֲשֵׂיהֶם כְּעֵין תְּרַשִּׁישׁ
וּדְמוּת אֶחָד לְאַרְבַּעַתָּן וּמֵרָאִיָּהֶם
וּמַעֲשֵׂיהֶם כַּאֲשֶׁר יִהְיֶה הָאֹפֶן
בְּתוֹךְ הָאוֹפָן: (יז) עַל-אַרְבַּעַת
רַבְעֵיהֶן בְּלִכְתָּם יֵלְכוּ לֹא יִסְבוּ
בְּלִכְתָּן: (יח) וְגִבֵּיהֶן וְגִבָּה לָהֶם
וּרְאָה לָהֶם וְגִבְתָּם מְלֹאת עֵינַיִם
סָבִיב לְאַרְבַּעַתָּן: (יט) וּבְלִכְת
הַחַיִּוֹת יֵלְכוּ הָאוֹפָנִים אֶצְלָם
וּבַהֲנַשָּׂא הַחַיִּוֹת מֵעַל הָאָרֶץ
יִנְשָׂאוּ הָאוֹפָנִים: (כ) עַל אֲשֶׁר
יִהְיֶה-נֶשֶׁם הָרוּחַ לְלִכְת יֵלְכוּ שָׁמָּה
הָרוּחַ לְלִכְת וְהָאוֹפָנִים יִנְשָׂאוּ
לְעַמְתָּם כִּי רוּחַ הַחַיָּה בְּאוֹפָנִים:
(כא) בְּלִכְתָּם יֵלְכוּ וּבְעַמְדָּם יַעֲמֻדוּ
וּבַהֲנַשָּׂאֵם מֵעַל הָאָרֶץ יִנְשָׂאוּ
הָאוֹפָנִים לְעַמְתָּם כִּי רוּחַ הַחַיָּה
בְּאוֹפָנִים: (כב) וּדְמוּת עַל-רְאִשֵׁי

veer when they moved. (18) Their rims were tall and frightening, for the rims of all four were covered all over with eyes. (19) And when the creatures moved forward, the wheels moved at their sides; and when the creatures were borne above the earth, the wheels were borne too. (20) Wherever the spirit impelled them to go, they went—wherever the spirit impelled them—and the wheels were borne alongside them; for the spirit of the creatures was in the wheels. (21) When those moved, these moved; and when those stood still, these stood still; and when those were borne above the earth, the wheels were borne alongside them—for the spirit of the creatures was in the wheels. (22) Above the heads of the creatures was a form: an expanse, with an awe-inspiring gleam as of crystal, was spread out above their heads. (23) Under the expanse, each had one pair of wings extended

הַחַיָּה רָקִיעַ כְּעֵין הַקָּרַח הַנּוֹרָא
 נִטּוּי עַל־רֵאשֵׁיהֶם מְלֻמְעָה: (כג)
 וְתַחַת הָרָקִיעַ כַּנְּפֵיהֶם יִשְׁרוֹת
 אִשָּׁה אֶל־אֲחוֹתָהּ לְאִישׁ שְׂתֵימִם
 מִכִּסּוֹת לְהִנָּה וּלְאִישׁ שְׂתֵימִם
 מִכִּסּוֹת לְהִנָּה אֵת גּוֹיֹתֵיהֶם: (כד)
 וְאֲשַׁמַּע אֶת־קוֹל כַּנְּפֵיהֶם כְּקוֹל
 מַיִם רַבִּים כְּקוֹל־שִׁדִּי בְּלִכְתָּם קוֹל
 הַמַּלְאָה כְּקוֹל מַחְנֶה בְּעַמָּדָם
 תְּרַפִּינָה כַּנְּפֵיהֶן: (כה) וַיְהִי־קוֹל
 מְעַל לְרָקִיעַ אֲשֶׁר עַל־רֵאשֵׁם
 בְּעַמָּדָם תְּרַפִּינָה כַּנְּפֵיהֶן: (כו)
 וּמִמְעַל לְרָקִיעַ אֲשֶׁר עַל־רֵאשֵׁם
 כְּמַרְאֵה אַבְן־סַפִּיר דְמוֹת כֶּסֶף וְעַל
 דְמוֹת הַכֶּסֶף דְמוֹת כְּמַרְאֵה אָדָם
 עָלָיו מְלֻמְעָה: (כז) וְאָרָא | כְּעֵין
 חֲשָׁמַל כְּמַרְאֵה־אֵשׁ בַּיִת־לָהּ סָבִיב
 מִמַּרְאֵה מְתַנּוּ וּלְמַעְלָה וּמִמַּרְאֵה
 מְתַנּוּ וּלְמַטָּה רָאִיתִי כְּמַרְאֵה־אֵשׁ
 וְנִגְהָ לּוֹ סָבִיב: (כח) כְּמַרְאֵה
 הַקְּשֶׁת אֲשֶׁר יְהִיָּה בְּעָנָן בַּיּוֹם

toward those of the others; and each had another pair covering its body. (24) When they moved, I could hear the sound of their wings like the sound of mighty waters, like the sound of Shaddai, a tumult like the din of an army. When they stood still, they would let their wings droop. (25) From above the expanse over their heads came a sound. When they stood still, they would let their wings droop. (26) Above the expanse over their heads was the semblance of a throne, in appearance like sapphire; and on top, upon this semblance of a throne, there was the semblance of a human form. (27) From what appeared as the loins up, I saw a gleam as of amber—what looked like a fire encased in a frame; and from what appeared as the loins down, I saw what looked like fire. There was a surrounding radiance. (28) Like the appearance of the bow that shines in the clouds on a day of

הַגֹּשֶׁם כִּן מֵרָאָה הַנִּגְהָה סְבִיב הוּא
מֵרָאָה דְּמֹת כְּבוֹד־יְהוָה וְאֶרְאָה
וְאֶפֶל עַל־פְּנֵי וְאֶשְׁמַע קוֹל מִדְּבָר:
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rain, such was the appearance of the surrounding radiance. That was the appearance of the semblance of the Presence of GOD. When I beheld it, I flung myself down on my face. And I heard the voice of someone speaking.

Ezekiel 3:12

(12) Then a spirit carried me away, and behind me I heard a great roaring sound: "Blessed is the Presence of GOD, in its place,"

יחזקאל ג':י"ב

(יב) וַתִּשָּׂאֵנִי רוּחַ וְאָשְׁמַע אַחֲרַי
קוֹל רַעַשׁ גָּדוֹל בְּרוּךְ כְּבוֹד־יְהוָה
מִמְּקוֹמוֹ: