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Rabbi Bob Benbow

For those who do not know, the Portion name comes from the first word or words of the portion in Torah. This week, Shabbat Hag HaMatzot, is translated as "Sabbath of Unleavened Bread."

Torah Commentary:

And he said, I beseech You, show me Your glory. And He said, I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the Name of YHVH before you; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. And He said, You cannot see My face: for there shall no man see Me, and live. And YHVH said, Behold, a place by Me, and you shall stand upon a rock: and it shall come to pass, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by: and I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back parts: but My face shall not be seen. (Ex. 33:18-23) And YHVH descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the Name of YHVH. And YHVH passed by before him, and proclaimed, The YHVH, The YHVH God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth. And Moses made haste, and bowed his head toward the earth, and worshiped. And he said, If now I have found grace in Your sight, O Lord, let my Lord, I pray You, go among us; for it a stiffnecked people; and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for Your inheritance. (Ex. 34:5-9) And He said, Behold, I make a covenant: before all your people I will do marvels, such as have not been done in all the earth, nor in any nation: and all the people among which you shall see the work of YHVH: for it a terrible thing that I will do with you. Observe you that which I command you this day: behold, I drive out before you the Amorite, and the Canaanite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, and the Hivite, and the Jebusite. Take heed to yourself, lest you make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land whither you go, lest it be for a snare in

*the midst of you: but you shall destroy their altars, break their images/statues, and cut down their groves: for you shall worship no other god: for YHVH, whose Name Jealous, a jealous God. (Ex. 34:10-24) What is in a name? The characteristics of a person? A past or a future? The nature of that person? Will the person live up to his name, or will it be a stumbling-block? How was your name determined? Do you match the meaning of your name? YHVH does! His Name is Glorious. His Name is Mercy, Gracious, Longsuffering, Truth, Kindness, Goodness, Justice, Righteousness, Forgiver, Exalted One, the Great I AM, Holy, Redeemer, King, along with many others. *O clap your hands, all you people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph. For YHVH Most High terrible; a great King over all the earth. He shall subdue the people under us, and the nations under our feet. He shall choose our inheritance for us, the excellence of Jacob whom He loved. Selah. God is gone up with a shout, YHVH with the sound of a trumpet. Sing praises to God, sing praises: sing praises to our King, sing praises. For God the King of all the earth: sing you praises with understanding. God reigns over the heathen: God sits upon the throne of His Holiness. The princes of the people are gathered together, the people of the God of Abraham: for the shields of the earth unto God: He is greatly exalted. (Ps. 47) Great is YHVH and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, the mountain of His holiness. Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, mount Zion, the sides of the north, the city of the great King. God is known in her palaces for a refuge. As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of YHVH of hosts, in the city of our God; God will establish it forever. Selah. We have thought of Your lovingkindness, O God, in the midst of Your temple. According to Your Name, O God, so Your praise unto the ends of the earth: Your right hand is full of righteousness. Let Mount Zion rejoice, let the daughters of Judah be glad, because of Your judgments. Walk about Zion, and go round about her: tell the towers thereof. Mark you well her bulwarks, consider her palaces; that you may tell to the generation following. For this God our God forever and ever: He will be our guide unto death. (Ps. 48:1-3.8-14) The Mighty God, YHVH, Has spoken, and called the earth from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof. Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God has shined. Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before Him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about Him. He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that He may judge His people. Gather My saints together to Me; those that have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice. And the heavens shall declare His righteousness; for God is Judge Himself. Selah. Hear, O My people, and I will speak; O Israel, and I will testify against you: I God, your God. Offer to God thanksgiving,; and pay your vows to the Most High: and call upon Me in the day of trouble: I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me. But unto the wicked God says, What have you to do to declare My statutes, or you should take My covenant in your mouth? Seeing you hate instruction, and cast My words behind you. Whoso offers praise glorifies Me: and**

to him that orders conversation will I show the salvation of God. (Ps. 50:1-7,14-17,23) O sing to YHVH a new song: sing to YHVH, all the earth. Sing to YHVH, bless His Name; show forth His salvation from day to day. Declare His glory among the heathen, His wonders among all people. For YHVH great, and greatly to be praised: He to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the nations idols: but YHVH made the heavens. Honor and majesty before Him: strength and beauty in His sanctuary. Give to YHVH O you kindreds of the people, give to YHVH glory and strength. Give to YHVH the glory His Name: bring an offering, and come into His courts. O worship YHVH in the beauty of holiness: fear before Him, all the earth. Say among the heathen YHVH reigns, the world also shall be established that it shall not be moved: He shall judge the people righteously. (Ps. 96:1-10) Seek out His Name, His nature. Seek Him with all your heart, a whole heart, undivided. Proclaim His glory to Him, to yourself, and to others. Meditate on Him and His Word. Selah.