

PARSHAT TERUMAH  
EXODUS 25:1-27:19  
HAFTARAH I KINGS 5:26-6:13  
2 ADAR 5783/23 FEBRUARY 2023



*The Cherubim*  
Painting by Yoram Raanan

WHERE THE GREATEST LIGHT IS REVEALED

1. “Let them make Me a sanctuary that I may dwell in their midst.” (Exodus 25:8)
2. “Make two cherubim...their faces shall be each to the other...I will meet with you there, between the two cherubim.” (Exodus 25:18-22)
3. “It is not good for the human to be alone; I will make a helper that is in front of/in sight of/ opposite.” (Genesis 2:18)

Cain was much distressed, and his face fell....“Why is your face fallen?” (Genesis 4:5-6)

“...to see your face is like seeing the face of God.” (Genesis 33:10)

4. There is in every meeting between two people a third person: a trace of the Infinite, a memory of an always absent past. (Ira Stone, *Reading Levinas/Reading Talmud*)

My ethical relation of love for the other stems from the fact that the self cannot survive by itself alone, cannot find meaning within its own being-in-the-world. (Emmanuel Levinas)

God is the other who turns our nature inside out. (Levinas)

5. The other’s material needs are my spiritual needs. (Rabbis Israel Salanter)

6. This work came into being after a lot of searching and scraping through many layers of thick paint. All the cutting away and carving created a sense of motion in the wings and introduced a new kind of light to the work. Wings are coverings that both cover and conceal, but it is in the space between them where the greatest light is revealed. (Yoram Raanan on his work *The Cherubim*)