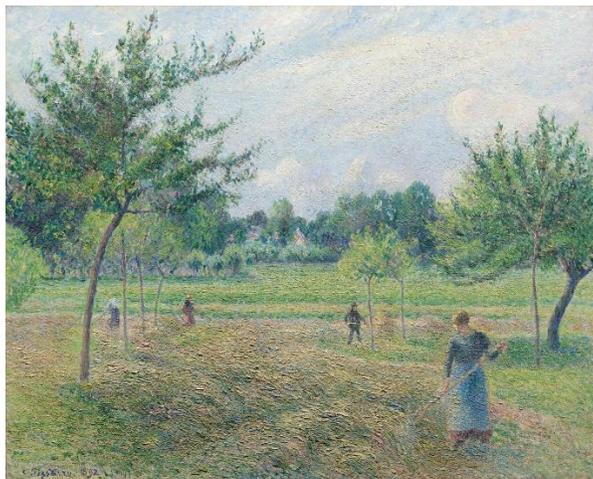


PARSHAT TETZAVEH
EXODUS 27:20-30:10
HAFTARAH I SAMUEL 15:2-34/
HAFTARAH EZEKIEL 43:10-27
9 ADAR 5786/26 FEBRUARY 2026



Haymaking in Éragny
Camille Pissarro

AN ANGEL OF EARTH

1. Make holy garments for your brother Aaron, for glory (*kavod*) and for beauty (*tiferet*).
(Exodus 28:2; also Exodus 28:40)

Kavod is used in Torah as applying to human beings only twice. Both are in Parshat Tetzaveh.

Tiferet is used only three times in Torah. Twice in Parshat Tetzaveh; and once at Deuteronomy 26:19, “God made you for praise, for a name, and for *tiferent*.”

2. I am the angel of reality,
Seen for the moment standing in the door.
....
I am one of you and being one of you
Is being and knowing what I am and know.

Yet I am the necessary angel of earth,
Since, in my sight, you see the earth again,

Cleared of its stiff and stubborn, man-locked set...

(“Angel Surrounded by Paysans.” Wallace Stevens)

3. Poetry is an illumination of a surface, the movement of a self in the rock....The imagination loses vitality as it ceases to adhere to what is real. (Wallace Stevens, "The Noble Rider and the Sound of Words" in *Necessary Angel: Essays on Reality and the Imagination*)
4. The fierce power of imagination is a gift from God. Joined with the grandeur of the mind. The potency of inference, ethical depth, and the natural sense of the divine, imagination becomes an instrument for the holy spirit. (Rav Kook, *Orot HaKodesh*)
5. Now you, O mortal, expound/tell a story (*hageid*) of the house... (Ezekiel 43:10), haftarah for Parshat Tetzaveh.
6. Yet I am the necessary angel of earth,
Since, in my sight, you see the earth again