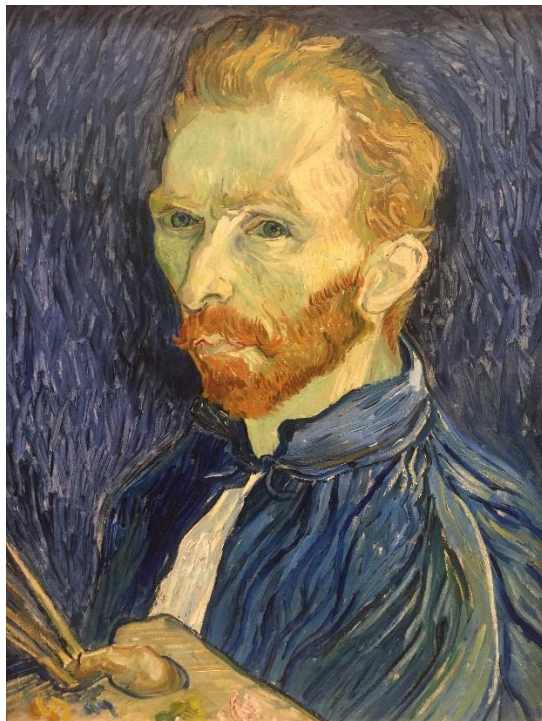


PARSHAT ACHAREI MOT-KEDOSHIM

LEVITICUS 16:1-20:27

HAFTARAH AMOS 9:7-15

6 IYYAR 5786/23 APRIL 2026



Self-Portrait, 1889
Vincent van Gogh

TO SEE THE STRANGE AS ONESELF

1. Love your fellow as yourself. I am Yud Hei Vav Hei. (Leviticus 19:18)
אֶהְיֶה לְרֵעִי כְמוֹתִי אָנֹכִי ??
2. This is the great principle/fundamental law/crowning point of Torah. (Rabbi Akiva, Bereshit Rabbah 24:7)

This is an expression by way of overstatement, for a human heart is not able to accept a command to love one's neighbor as oneself. Rather, the commandment of the Torah means that one is to love one's fellow-being in all matters, as one loves all good for oneself. (Ramban)

That which is hateful to you do not do to another; that is the entire Torah, and the rest is its interpretation. Go study. (Hillel, Shabbat 31a)

3. רָעָה - v., to associate with; רֵעָה - n., friend, companion
רָעָה - v., to pasture, tend, graze; רֹעֶה - n., shepherd
רָעָה - v., to take pleasure in, desire; רֵעַ - n., purpose, aim;
4. רוּת - Ruth, a Moabite princess
רְעוּאֵל - Reul (Yitro), a Midianite priest
5. [The possibility of any genuine sense of community is based on] “the fact that every familiar is ultimately strange and that, indeed, I am even in a crucial sense a stranger to myself.” (Eric Santner, *On the Psychotheology of Everyday Life: Reflections on Freud and Rosenzweig*)
6. With an eye made quiet by the power
Of harmony, and the deep power of joy,
We see into the life of things.
(William Wordsworth, “Tintern Abbey”)