

# Deuteronomy 5:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And ye said, Behold, the LORD our God hath shewed us his glory and his greatness, and we have heard his voice out of the midst of the fire: we have seen this day that God doth talk with man, and he liveth.

## Analysis

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The people's confession 'the LORD our God hath shewed us his glory and his greatness' acknowledges theophany as divine self-revelation. The Hebrew 'kavod' (glory) signifies God's weighty, majestic presence. The phrase 'we have heard his voice out of the midst of the fire' validates that God speaks, establishing verbal revelation as primary means of knowing Him. The observation 'we have seen this day that God doth talk with man, and he liveth' demonstrates that divine encounter doesn't automatically destroy—God can communicate without consuming. This prefigures the Incarnation where God speaks definitively through His Son (Hebrews 1:1-2).

## Historical Context

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The Sinai revelation circa 1446 BC was unprecedented—God speaking audibly to an entire nation. This distinguished Israel from all nations whose deities communicated through omens, dreams, or oracles. Israel heard God's actual voice proclaiming the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17). Moses later reminded Israel that no other nation experienced such direct divine communication (Deuteronomy 4:32-34). This unique revelation established Israel as covenant people possessing God's authoritative Word.



## Additional Cross-References

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**Exodus 19:19** (References God): And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice.

**Deuteronomy 4:33** (References God): Did ever people hear the voice of God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as thou hast heard, and live?

**Exodus 33:20** (Parallel theme): And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live.

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