

Exodus 24:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Moses rose up, and his minister Joshua: and Moses went up into the mount of God.

Analysis

And Moses rose up, and his minister Joshua: and Moses went up into the mount of God.

Moses takes Joshua (יְהוֹשֻׁעַ, Yehoshua, 'YHWH saves')—his assistant and eventual successor. Joshua climbs partway but doesn't enter the cloud (v. 15-18 shows Moses alone in glory). This begins Joshua's preparation for leadership—he observes Moses' intimacy with God. Joshua later meets the Commander of the LORD's army (Joshua 5:13-15)—his own divine encounter. The 'mount of God' (הַר הָאֱלֹהִים, har ha'Elohim) designation shows Sinai's sacred status. Mountains repeatedly serve as divine encounter sites: Moriah (Abraham), Sinai (Moses), Carmel (Elijah), Transfiguration (Jesus). Mountaintops signify meeting between heaven and earth.

Historical Context

Joshua served as Moses' aide from Egypt through wilderness to Canaan's conquest. His presence here begins training for future leadership. Joshua means 'YHWH saves,' the Hebrew equivalent of Greek 'Jesus'—both deliver God's people.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. Why does Moses bring Joshua partway up the mountain—what leadership training does this provide?
2. How do mountaintop encounters with God throughout Scripture reveal God's pattern of revelation?

Interlinear Text

וַיַּקַּם	וַיַּקַּם	וַיַּקַּם	וַיַּקַּם	וַיַּקַּם	וַיַּקַּם	וַיַּקַּם
rose up	And Moses	Joshua	and his minister	went up	And Moses	H413
H6965	H4872	H3091	H8334	H5927	H4872	
וַיַּקַּם	וַיַּקַּם	וַיַּקַּם	וַיַּקַּם	וַיַּקַּם	וַיַּקַּם	וַיַּקַּם
into the mount	of God					
H2022	H430					

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 33:11 (References Moses): And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle.

Numbers 11:28 (References Moses): And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of Moses, one of his young men, answered and said, My lord Moses, forbid them.

Exodus 3:1 (References God): Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.