

Exodus 24:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the glory of the LORD abode upon mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days: and the seventh day he called unto Moses out of the midst of the cloud.

Analysis

And the glory of the LORD abode upon mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days: and the seventh day he called unto Moses out of the midst of the cloud.

'Glory of the LORD' (הָיוֹת כְּבוֹד, kevod YHWH) is God's weighty presence, His manifest excellence. The glory 'abode' (יָשַׁב, vayishkon) uses the verb root for 'dwelling' (shakhan), later forming 'Shekinah'—God's glorious presence. The cloud remains six days before God calls Moses—more waiting. Why? Testing patience? Building anticipation? The seventh-day call echoes creation's pattern—six days of work/preparation, seventh day of consummation. Moses enters God's rest on the seventh day. The whole narrative is saturated with Sabbath theology—God works six, rests seventh; we work six, rest seventh; covenant is made sixth day, confirmed seventh.

Historical Context

The glory of the LORD (kavod YHWH) is a central Old Testament concept—God's visible, weighty, majestic presence. It appeared at the Red Sea, Sinai, the tabernacle, and Solomon's temple. The Shekinah glory departed before exile (Ezekiel 10) and returned in Christ (John 1:14, 'dwelt' = eskenosen, from shakhan).

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. Why does God make Moses wait six days before calling him—what does the waiting accomplish?
2. How does the seventh-day call connect to Sabbath theology and God's creation pattern?

Interlinear Text

וַיֵּשֶׁב	וְ	כְּבוֹד	יְהוָה	עַל	רֵגֵל	סִינַי	וַיַּכְרֵב
abode	And the glory	of the LORD	H3068	H5921	upon mount	Sinai	covered
H7931	H3519				H2022	H5514	H3680
בְּعִדָּה	וְ	כְּבוֹד	יְהוָה	עַל	רֵגֵל	סִינַי	וַיַּכְרֵב
and the cloud	it six	day	he called	unto Moses	day		
H6051	H8337	H3117	H7121	H4872	H3117		
בְּעִדָּה	וְ	כְּבוֹד	יְהוָה	עַל	רֵגֵל	סִינַי	וַיַּכְרֵב
and the seventh	out of the midst	and the cloud					
H7637	H8432	H6051					

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 16:10 (Glory): And it came to pass, as Aaron spake unto the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and, behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud.

Numbers 16:42 (Glory): And it came to pass, when the congregation was gathered against Moses and against Aaron, that they looked toward the tabernacle of the congregation: and, behold, the cloud covered it, and the glory of the LORD appeared.

Psalms 99:7 (Parallel theme): He spake unto them in the cloudy pillar: they kept his testimonies, and the ordinance that he gave them.

Ezekiel 1:28 (Glory): As the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud in the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness round about. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. And when I saw it, I fell upon my face, and I heard a voice of one that spake.

Numbers 14:10 (Glory): But all the congregation bade stone them with stones. And the glory of the LORD appeared in the tabernacle of the congregation before all the children of Israel.

Leviticus 9:23 (Glory): And Moses and Aaron went into the tabernacle of the congregation, and came out, and blessed the people: and the glory of the LORD appeared unto all the people.