

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' (כְּבוֹד יְהוָה, *kevod YHWH*) is God's weighty presence, His manifest excellence. The glory 'abode' (וַיִּשְׁכֹּן, *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

Psalms 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

וַיִּכֶסֶה הוֹ	סִינַי י	הָר	עַל	יְהוָה	כְּבוֹד	וַיֵּשֶׁב
covered	Sinai	upon mount	of the LORD	And the glory	abode	
H3680	H5514	H2022	H5921	H3068	H3519	H7931
בִּי וּמֹשֶׁה	מֹשֶׁה הָ	אֶל	וַיִּקְרָא	בִּי וּמֹשֶׁה	שֵׁשֶׁת	הָעֶנָן:
day	unto Moses	he called	day	it six	and the cloud	
H3117	H4872	H7121	H3117	H8337	H6051	
הָעֶנָן:	מִתּוֹךְ	הַשְּׁבִיעִי י				
and the cloud	out of the midst	and the seventh				
H6051	H8432	H7637				

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.