

Exodus 33:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass, when Moses went out unto the tabernacle, that all the people rose up, and stood every man at his tent door, and looked after Moses, until he was gone into the tabernacle.

Analysis

And it came to pass, when Moses went out unto the tabernacle, that all the people rose up—The people's response shows reverence and hope. Standing at tent doors, watching Moses' journey to the tent of meeting, they recognize their need for a mediator. They cannot approach directly but must have Moses go for them. Their standing posture indicates respect, anticipation, and implicit prayer that Moses' intercession would succeed. This foreshadows Christ our mediator (1 Timothy 2:5) whom we watch by faith entering God's presence for us.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern protocol required subjects to stand when royalty passed. The people's corporate response shows they understood Moses' unique role as mediator between themselves and the offended holy God.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does your awareness of Christ's ongoing intercession for you affect your confidence in approaching God?
2. Do you 'stand at your tent door' in watchful prayer, or have you become complacent about your need for mediation?

Interlinear Text

וַיֵּצֵא מֹשֶׁה מִבְּאֹהֶל מוֹעֵד	וְאֵלֶּה כִּי					
וַיֵּצֵא מֹשֶׁה מִבְּאֹהֶל מוֹעֵד	וְאֵלֶּה כִּי					
וְאֵלֶּה כִּי	וְאֵלֶּה כִּי	וְאֵלֶּה כִּי	וְאֵלֶּה כִּי	וְאֵלֶּה כִּי	וְאֵלֶּה כִּי	וְאֵלֶּה כִּי
וְאֵלֶּה כִּי	וְאֵלֶּה כִּי	וְאֵלֶּה כִּי	וְאֵלֶּה כִּי	וְאֵלֶּה כִּי	וְאֵלֶּה כִּי	וְאֵלֶּה כִּי

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 16:27 (Temple): So they got up from the tabernacle of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, on every side: and Dathan and Abiram came out, and stood in the door of their tents, and their wives, and their sons, and their little children.