

# Exodus 33:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass, as Moses entered into the tabernacle, the cloudy pillar descended, and stood at the door of the tabernacle, and the LORD talked with Moses.

## Analysis

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**And it came to pass, as Moses entered into the tabernacle, the cloudy pillar descended**—The cloud (עֲמֹד הָעָנָן, ammud he'anan) represents God's presence, glory, and guidance (Exodus 13:21-22). Its descent signals God's willingness to meet despite Israel's sin. The cloud stands at the door, not inside the camp, maintaining the separation caused by sin while demonstrating continued accessibility through the mediator. This visible manifestation assured Israel that though distant, God had not abandoned them. The shekinah glory would later fill the completed tabernacle (Exodus 40:34-35).

## Historical Context

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The pillar of cloud had guided Israel since leaving Egypt (Exodus 13:21). Its presence at the tent door, rather than in the camp center, marked a significant change from the pre-golden calf relationship where God dwelt among them.

## Related Passages

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How do you respond when God's presence feels distant due to your sin—do you retreat further or seek restoration?
2. What visible signs of God's grace sustain your faith during seasons of spiritual distance?

## Interlinear Text

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וְהָיָה H1961	כָּבֹא entered H935	וַיָּבֹא And it came to pass as Moses H4872	לְהֵיכָל into the tabernacle H168	וַיֵּרֶד descended H3381
וְעַמּוּד pillar H5982	וְהָעֶנָן the cloudy H6051	וַיַּעֲמֵד and stood H5975	פֶּתַח at the door H6607	לְהֵיכָל into the tabernacle H168
וַיְדַבֵּר and the LORD talked H1696	עִם H5973	וַיָּבֹא And it came to pass as Moses H4872		

## Additional Cross-References

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

**Exodus 31:18** (References Moses): And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God.