

# Exodus 34:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD.

## Analysis

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The LORD descends in the cloud (אָנָן, anan)—the visible manifestation of divine presence (Shekinah glory). God takes the initiative to 'stand with him there' and proclaims His own name (שֵׁם יְהוָה, shem YHWH). This self-revelation is unprecedented—God defines Himself not merely in power but in character. The cloud signifies both revelation and concealment; God makes Himself known while preserving His transcendence.

## Historical Context

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The cloud had guided Israel from Egypt (13:21-22) and now becomes the location for this crucial covenant renewal. This theophany parallels God's appearances to the patriarchs.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. What is significant about God proclaiming His own name rather than having Moses speak it?
2. How does the cloud illustrate the tension between God's transcendence and immanence?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיֵּרֵד	יְהוָה:	בְּעָנָן	וַיִּתֵּן ב	עַמּוֹ	שׁוֹ
descended	And the LORD	in the cloud	and stood	H5973	H8033
H3381	H3068	H6051	H3320		
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וַיְקַרְא	בְּשֵׁם	יְהוָה:			
with him there and proclaimed	the name	And the LORD			
H7121	H8034	H3068			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Exodus 33:19** (References Lord): And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy.

**Exodus 33:9** (References Lord): 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.

**Numbers 11:25** (References Lord): And the LORD came down in a cloud, and spake unto him, and took of the spirit that was upon him, and gave it unto the seventy elders: and it came to pass, that, when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied, and did not cease.

**Numbers 11:17** (Parallel theme): And I will come down and talk with thee there: and I will take of the spirit which is upon thee, and will put it upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with thee, that thou bear it not thyself alone.

**Isaiah 1:10** (References Lord): Hear the word of the LORD, ye rulers of Sodom; give ear unto the law of our God, ye people of Gomorrah.

**Psalms 102:21** (References Lord): To declare the name of the LORD in Zion, and his praise in Jerusalem;

**Proverbs 18:10** (References Lord): The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.

**Exodus 19:18** (References Lord): And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly.

**Deuteronomy 32:3** (References Lord): Because I will publish the name of the LORD: ascribe ye greatness unto our God.

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