

Isaiah 4:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory shall be a defence.

Analysis

The promise of divine presence—cloud by day and flaming fire by night—deliberately echoes Exodus imagery of God's presence guiding Israel (Exodus 13:21-22). The phrase 'upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies' extends Shekinah glory beyond tabernacle/temple to every habitation, anticipating new covenant reality where God dwells with His people directly (Revelation 21:3). The covering 'tabernacle' provides both guidance and protection, fulfilled in Christ who 'tabernacled among us' (John 1:14).

Historical Context

Exodus theophany was paradigmatic divine presence. Isaiah's prophecy promises renewed covenant intimacy surpassing even wilderness glory, pointing to eschatological restoration.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's incarnation ('tabernacled among us') fulfill this promise of intensified divine presence?
2. What does the extension of glory to 'every dwelling place' teach about new covenant access to God?

Interlinear Text

וַיִּבְרָא	יְהוָה	עַל	כָּל	מִכּוֹן	הַר	צִיּוֹן
will create	And the LORD	H5921	H3605	upon every dwelling place	of mount	Zion
H1254	H3068			H4349	H2022	H6726
וְעַל	מִקְרָאָהּ	עָנָן	יוֹמָם	וְעָשָׁן	וְנֹרָא	
H5921	and upon her assemblies	a cloud	by day	and smoke	and the shining	
	H4744	H6051	H3119	H6227	H5051	
שֵׁן	לְהַבָּה	לַיְלָה	כִּי	עַל	כָּל	כְּבוֹד
fire	of a flaming	by night	H3588	H5921	H3605	for upon all the glory
H784	H3852	H3915				H3519
חֲפָה:						
shall be a defence						
H2646						

Additional Cross-References

Nehemiah 9:12 (Parallel theme): Moreover thou leddest them in the day by a cloudy pillar; and in the night by a pillar of fire, to give them light in the way wherein they should go.

Psalms 78:14 (Parallel theme): In the daytime also he led them with a cloud, and all the night with a light of fire.

Isaiah 60:1 (Glory): Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.

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