



bloodline *network newsletter*

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THE GLORY CLOUD

Then you came near and stood at the foot of the mountain, and the mountain burned with fire to the midst of heaven, with darkness, CLOUD, and THICK DARKNESS. DEUTERONOMY 4:11

God spoke to the people of Israel from out of the DARK CLOUD. It's the same Cloud that Moses walked into to talk with God forty days on Mount Sinai. The Israelites are terrified and won't even come near it—they feared Moses was dead.

Moses had such a close relationship with God that he spoke face to face with Him. Whenever Moses went into the Tabernacle of Meeting the people "*saw the pillar of CLOUD standing at the tabernacle door, and all the people rose and worshiped, each man in his tent door.*" The Dark Cloud became a symbol of God HOVERING over His people.

= CLOUDS AND DARKNESS

The Lord reigns, let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad! CLOUDS and DARKNESS surround Him. Righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne. A fire goes before Him and burns up His enemies round about. His lightning's light the world, the earth sees and trembles. The mountains melt like wax at the PRESENCE of the LORD, at the PRESENCE of the LORD of the whole earth. The heavens declare His righteousness, and all the people see His GLORY. PSALM 97

Accustomed to experiencing the PRESENCE of God, Moses said, "*If your PRESENCE does not go with us, do not bring us up from here*"—he won't go anywhere without God. Likewise David made it a habit to seek God's Presence and wrote, "*You will show me the path of life, in Your PRESENCE is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures for evermore.*"

David desired to be in the PRESENCE of God. He wanted to build a house for God's PRESENCE, a RESTING-PLACE for the Ark of God. David learned to seek God's face by searching the scripture and discovered there's a proper order or protocol for entering into God's Presence. He was a man who sought God's Presence but also found God's heart and purpose.

There was a span of years that the Tabernacle of David (with the Ark of God) was set up in Jerusalem while the Tabernacle of Moses (without the Ark) was still in operation at Shiloh. Both tabernacles become one in Solomon's Temple.

= THE SHEKINAH GLORY

*... And with them one hundred twenty priests sounding with trumpets—indeed it came to pass, when the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD, and when they lifted their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the LORD saying: "For He is good, For His mercy endures forever," That the house of the LORD was filled with a CLOUD so that the priest could not continue ministering because of the CLOUD for the GLORY of the LORD filled the house of God. ...Then Solomon spoke: "The LORD said He would dwell in the DARK CLOUD. I have surely built You an exalted house, And a place for You to dwell in forever. **2 CHRONICLES***

Solomon built the Temple for his father David according to all the specifications and marveled that God HOVERED over the man-built structure. Witnessing what he called the "Dark Cloud" Solomon worshiped God. God manifested His PRESENCE to them just like He did in the days of Moses—it was an awesome experience.

Israel saw God dwell in the Temple—signifying it's His DWELLING PLACE. The priest could not even minister because the DARK CLOUD was so dense, "*for the GLORY of the LORD filled the house of the LORD!*" Later the Israelites would call it a Chaldean word 'Shekinah' meaning 'resting-place'—designating the GLORY CLOUD as a visible symbol of God's Presence in the earth.

= CLOUDS AND THICK DARKNESS

*The great day of the Lord is near; it is near and hastens quickly. The noise of the day of the Lord is bitter; there the mighty men shall cry out. That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of devastation and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of CLOUDS and THICK DARKNESS. **ZEPHANIAH 1:14-15***

Although Moses built a Tabernacle and Solomon built a Temple, the prophets spoke of another promise that man would become the HABITATION of God as the Body of Christ.

Everything looks different in the Dark Cloud of God's power if you're operating 'in' His spiritual tabernacle—the Body of Christ. The scripture sounds like 'doom and

gloom' from afar off but 'in' the Dark Cloud its miraculous power defined as thunder and lightening round about them.

In the Old Testament incense was taken into the Holiest Place behind the veil. Today your PRAYER, MEDITATION and WORSHIP creates a cloud that entreats the Mercy of God. Not unlike the manifestations of past generations thunder or a sonic boom can be heard during our worship and illuminations can often be seen in the Glory Cloud.

= THE GREAT AND AWESOME DAY OF THE LORD

Blow the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in My holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble; for the day of the LORD is coming, for it is at hand: a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of CLOUDS and THICK DARKNESS, like the morning clouds spread over the mountains JOEL 2

The pillar of cloud and fire can be terrifying or awesome—HOW you view it makes all the difference. Those who see 'gloom and doom' view it as scary and out to destroy them. Those who see the "*great and awesome day of the Lord*" see it through the eyes of grace and worship the majesty of Almighty God.

Everything is relative to whether you are 'in' or 'out' of the Dark Cloud of God's power. On the day of Pentecost the Apostle Peter described an insider's view of what Joel prophesied. They 'saw' fire and 'heard' the sound of a mighty rushing wind, they even 'felt' the place shaking with the empowerment of the Spirit—only this time God's tabernacled in man and they spoke in other tongues of the wonderful works of God.

At the beginning of 1900: In Topeka Kansas young men and women held a vigil in expectation of the '*great and awesome day of the Lord*' and received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Contrast that with the year 2000: Men and women anxiously kept vigilance to make sure nothing 'bad' occurred—energy and banking were thought to collapse overnight. Many purchased generators and stored food because they expected the 'doom and gloom' from world catastrophes.

= OVERSHADOWING PRESENCE

And the angel answered and said to (Mary), "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will OVERSHADOW you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. LUKE 1

Mary felt the dunamis power of Heaven OVERSHADOW her—she was 'enveloped in a haze of brilliancy' at the conception of His promise in her. Those with the ability to see in the spiritual realm observe the same phenomena today—often referred to as aura. They may see a brilliant color around people or see the Shekinah Glory.

At the transfiguration of Jesus on the Mount "*a CLOUD came and OVERSHADOWED them, and they were fearful as they entered the CLOUD. And a voice came out of the CLOUD saying, 'This is My beloved Son. Hear Him.'*" The Apostles were fearful but it's more a

reverential respect. The sight caused their spirit-man to stand at attention. His Presence touched the core of their being and their ‘knower knew’ this was God Almighty!

Imagine what life must have been like for the disciples. They were with Jesus everyday—often feeling that He was just like one of them. Yet their familiarity shrouded the profound. Although Jesus is flesh and blood—His ALIGNMENT made Him ONE with the Father.

An experience like this fully riveted the disciple’s attention to the fact that they were witnessing the Majesty of God! They saw the DARK CLOUD just like their fathers in the days of Moses or Solomon. They were ‘in’ the cloud—they knew it was God!

=COMING IN THE CLOUD

Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a CLOUD received Him out of their sight. ... This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven. **ACTS 1:9, 11b**

Is it possible to ascend into heaven without the Cloud? The Scriptures seem to indicate that the CLOUD is the envelope of transitional moments. How often we’ve seen it in our gatherings—not just the confirmation that His PRESENCE is with us but we discovered that it may very well be the mode of travel in the supernatural realm as we pass from glory to glory.

It’s in those in-between moments of your life that you step ‘in’ and ‘out’ of the DARK CLOUD of Glory. It’s in Ascending Prayer or Meditation that you learn to enter God’s PRESENCE. Often it’s in moments like these that God reveals your faith hidden behind a fear and you courageously break through the opposition.

You experience great power (*dunamis*) and great grace—God OVERSHADOWS your earthly vessel because you house the SPIRITUAL TABERNACLE of God. The Body of Christ walks in a powerful anointing of God’s overshadowing Presence.

=THE BRIGHTNESS OF HIS COMING

*Then you will see the Son of Man coming in a CLOUD with power (*dunamis*) and great GLORY.* **LUKE 21:27**

And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy (or render useless) with the brightness (or manifestation) of His COMING (His Presence). **2 THESSALONIANS 2:8**

In the Holy Place God gathers together those who are ONE in Him ... and those not with Him are discarded. Whatever is corruptible is rendered useless in the brilliance of God’s OVERSHADOWING PRESENCE—it cannot ALIGN or become ONE so it simply falls away.

“Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the CLOUDS to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.” Those not one with God shun the light because they’re unwilling to lay down the weaponry of unbelief. But those in the Light *“walk in the Light as He is in the Light.”* You live and breathe the glorious atmosphere of truth, peace and wisdom in the Dark Cloud and walk on in Him.

In ALIGNING to His Presence you liberate your future—you experience the true freedom of divine expression now. ALIGNING to His Presence you surrender to the flow that transcends the ebb ... and aware of the total bliss from His Presence ... you walk into the Brightness of His Coming—TODAY.

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