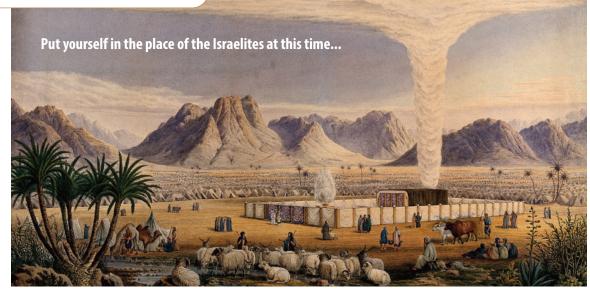


## EPISODE II: THE STRUCTURE

# THE GLORY CLOUD

"DRAWING" ON YOUR IDEAS



You have been redeemed from Egypt, brought into the wilderness, and have seen the Cloud on the mountain. You rebelled with the worship of the golden calf, repented, and received the law. You heard of the news of the tabernacle and offered materials for its construction. Now, with it finished, you watch as the Cloud descends from the mountain that you could not touch, and fills the tabernacle. Describe the scene and the emotions you might feel in the events leading up to this moment.

### WATCH & FILL-IN-THE-BLANKS

I. The Lord has been \_\_\_\_\_\_ from the people, on Sinai's peak, with a barrier keeping them from coming near. But the tabernacle is \_\_\_\_\_\_ for occupancy.

2. The ark (that beautiful picture of Christ) determined the \_\_\_\_\_\_ of all the other items. Today as well, everything and everyone is evaluated by their distance \_\_\_\_\_\_, or nearness \_\_\_\_\_\_, the nail-pierced feet of the Lord Jesus.

3. "Moses was not able to \_\_\_\_\_\_ the tabernacle of meeting, because the cloud rested above it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle" (v 35).

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4. "Therefore, brethren, having boldness to \_\_\_\_\_\_ the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way...let us draw \_\_\_\_\_\_ ..." (Heb 10:19-22). "Let us therefore \_\_\_\_\_\_ boldly to the throne of grace..." (4:16).

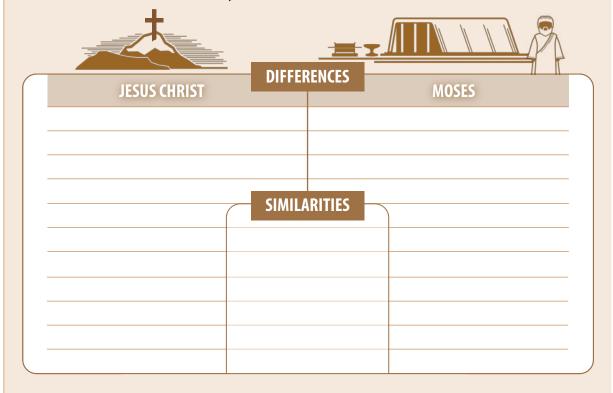
5. The benefits of having that Glory Cloud: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_,

\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_

6. What is one Scripture passage that informs us that we have this same guidance from the Lord today?

**READ & REFLECT ON:** Mk 15:37-39; Jn 19:28-30; Heb 3:1-6; 10:19-22

ACTIVITY: THINKING IT THROUGH Obviously, nothing compares to what Jesus Christ accomplished on the cross. But to help us appreciate the superiority of His completed work there, note some key differences and interesting similarities to Moses and his completion of the tabernacle.



### SOME HELPFUL QUOTES

"The tabernacle was necessary for a failing, sinful nation. Although Israel had promised to obey God's Law, He knew that they would often sin against Him. The tabernacle with its sacrifices and priests were the plan of a holy God to keep a failing nation close to Himself." —R.E. Harlow (*The Way Out and The Way In*, p 53)

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"All was now quite in readiness—means, ordinances, and appointed channels of blessing—and all was in waiting. One thing only was needed; but upon that the meaning and the efficacy of everything else depended. But God was faithful to His promise. As in believing expectancy Israel looked up, 'the cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of Jehovah filled the Tabernacle.'" —Alfred Edersheim (Bible History – Volume 2, p 136)

"It was the Lord Jesus who told out what God is, who declared the Father's name, who sanctified His brethren, who anointed with the Holy Spirit, and was minister of the true tabernacle. So as we would expect, 'the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.' The fullness of this points on to a coming glory, and yet was appreciated in part by the people even then. So, now we have 'the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ,' while we await 'the glory which shall be revealed.' Until then God's presence and guidance are assured.'' -R.V. Court (Day by Day, p 63)

"Jehovah is now dwelling in the midst of His redeemed people, He to enjoy them and they to enjoy Him. The cloud will guide them, leading them when it is time to move and remaining still when it is time to stop...Today God still dwells in the midst of His gathered people in the assembly. Let the privileges be enjoyed, and may the responsibilities be faithfully discharged." —John Grant (What the Bible Teaches: Exodus, p 464)

#### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

I. Identify and explain the idea that was most profound or most helpful to you in this eleventh lesson. What questions do you have from this lesson?

2. Explain the importance of the placement of the ark in relation to the tabernacle and how that translates to our lives and Christ. What practical applications can we make today?

3. Explain the importance of the Cloud in the everyday lives of the Hebrews and how it relates to our lives and God. What practical applications can we make today?

4. Compare and contrast the coming of the Glory Cloud to the people in the Old Covenant and our coming to the throne of grace in the New.

#### **MY PERSONAL NOTES:**