

October 29
Exodus 39-40

His Presence



Tabernacle of God
in the Wilderness



FBC Woodville
Sunday School Class
Michael G. Maness
see
PreciousHeart.net/SS



Moses, 1513-15, by Michelangelo
Church of San Pietro in Vincoli, Rome

Exodus

| | | | | | |
|---|------|----|---------------|-------|---|
| 1. | Sept | 3 | Reluctance | 3-4 | Moses at Burning Bush |
| 2. | Sept | 10 | Confrontation | 7 | Moses before Pharaoh |
| 3. | Sept | 17 | Liberation | 12 | Passover – “When I see ... blood ” |
| 4. | Sept | 24 | Victory | 14 | Moses—Parting of Red Sea |
| 5. | Oct | 1 | Sufficient | 16 | Moses—Manna from Heaven |
| 6. | Oct | 8 | Commanded | 20 | Moses—Ten Commandments |
| 7. | Oct | 15 | Equipped | 25-31 | Moses—Building the Tabernacle |
| 8. | Oct | 22 | Rebellion | 32 | Golden Calf & Moses’ Prayer |
|  9. | Oct | 29 | His Presence | 39-40 | Glory of Lord Filled Tabernacle |

Leviticus

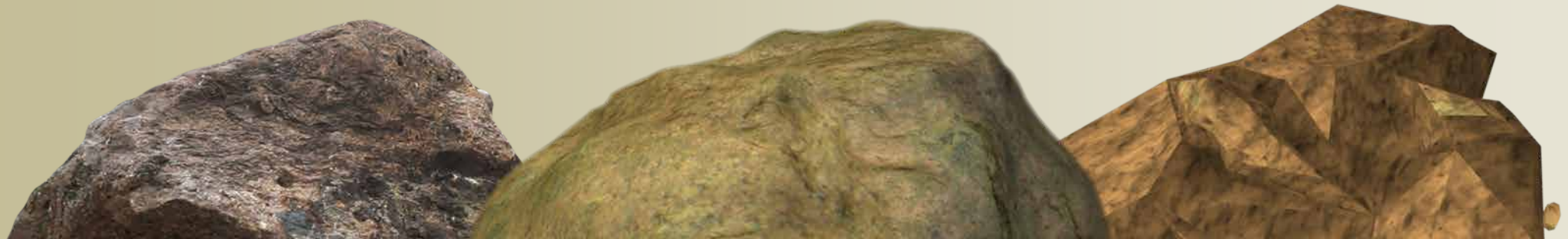
| | | | | | |
|-----|-----|----|-------------|---------|------------------------------------|
| 10. | Nov | 5 | Set Before | 1-3 | Burnt, Grain, Fellowship Offerings |
| 11. | Nov | 12 | Set Apart | 9-10 | Lord’s Fire Consumes Offerings |
| 12. | Nov | 19 | Set Free | 16 & 29 | Annual Day of Atonement |
| 13. | Nov | 26 | Set Futures | 26 | <i>If You Follow My Statutes</i> |

Theme

God enjoys dwelling with His obedient people.

Exodus 39-40

| | | |
|----------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 39:42-43 | Finished – | Moses Inspected & Blessed |
| 40:1-4 | Assembly Required – | “Set up the Tabernacle” |
| 40:5-33 | <i>Tabernacle Set Up –</i> | <i>verse 16, Moses did everything</i> |
| 40:34-35 | Glory Shown – | “Glory of the LORD Filled” |
| 40:36-38 | God Led – | “In All Their Travels” |



Key Verse – Exodus 40:34

**Then the cloud covered
the tent of meeting, and
the glory of the LORD
filled the tabernacle.**

Alternate Title

Shekinah Glory for Us

Tabernacle is Complete

Moses inspects all

Moses calls top honchos

Great pomp ... offerings

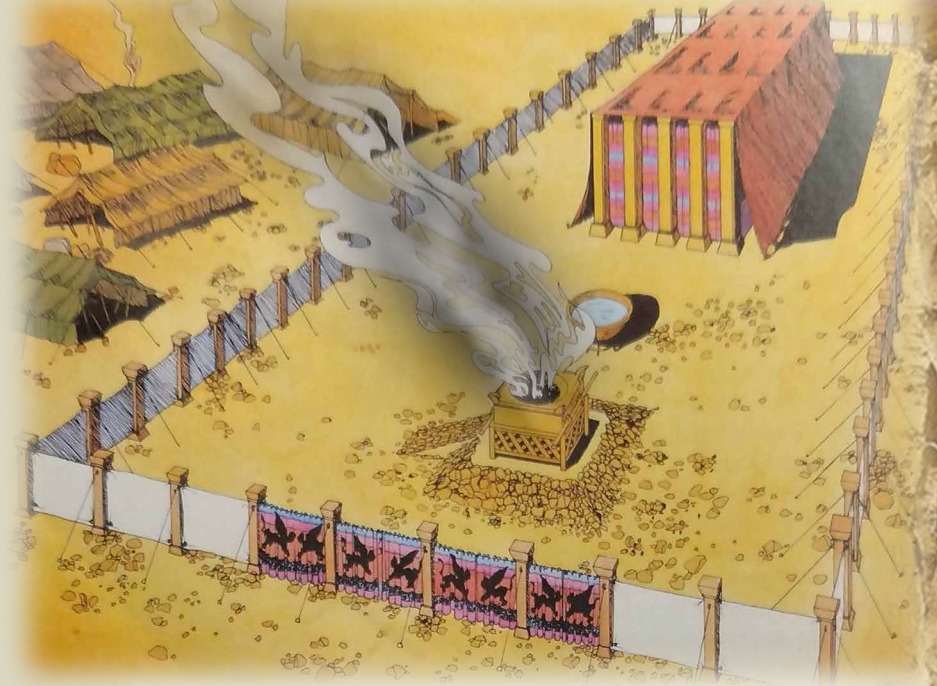
Ark placed inside Holy Place

God comes down

Some say,

Shekinah

Glory Came



Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness

FACT:

God's Presence

Came Down

**Israel STILL
at the foot of
Mt. Sinai**

**Jebel Musa
Mt. Horeb**

*Horeb often refers to
whole mountain range*



Exodus and MOSES

Notice the Last
Section of Exodus

16 Chapters

You are
HERE >

we have come far ... fast

- | | |
|---|------------|
| I. Preparation for Deliverance | 1 to 4 |
| II. Moses Confronts Pharaoh | 5 to 12 |
| III. Freedom Gained | 13 to 15 |
| IV. Into the Wilderness to Sinai | 15 to 18 |
| V. At the Foot of Mount Sinai | 19 to 24 |
| VI. Building the Tabernacle | 25 to 40 |
| A. Specifications for Tabernacle | 25:1-31:11 |
| B. Between the Specifications & the Building Tabernacle | 31:12-35:3 |
| C. Building of the Tabernacle | 35:4-39:43 |
| D. Completion of the Tabernacle | 40:1-38 |

Exodus and MOSES



Looking
Back >

You are
HERE >

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| VI. Building the Tabernacle | 25 to 40 |
| A. Specifications for Tabernacle | 25:1-31:11 |
| B. Between the Specification & Building Tabernacle | 31:12-35:3 |
| 1. Reminder of the Sabbath | 31:12-17 |
| 2. Giving of the Two Tablets | 31:18 |
| 3. Golden Calf & Judgment | 32:1-35 |
| 4. God's Command to Go Up to Promised Land | 33:1-6 |
| 5. Tabernacle Outside Camp ... Moses with God | 33:7-11 |
| 6. Moses' Requests Assurance of God's Presence | 33:12-23 |
| 7. Moses on Mt. Sinai Again for 40 Days & Nights | 34:1-28 |
| a. Renewal of Tablets, Covenant | 34:1-10 |
| b. Warnings & Feasts | 34:11-26 |
| 8. Shining and Veiling of Moses' face | 34:29-35 |
| 9. Reminder of the Sabbath | 35:1-3 |
| C. Building of the Tabernacle | 35:4 to 39:43 |
| D. Completion of the Tabernacle | 40:1-38 |

Exodus and MOSES

VI. the Tabernacle

25 to 40

A. Specifications for Tabernacle

25:1-31:11

B. Between Specification & Building

31:12-35:3

C. Building of the Tabernacle

35:4 to 39:43

1. Command for Offerings & Workmen

35:4-35

2. Completion of Offering

36:1-7

3. Making of the Tabernacle Itself

36:8-38

4. Making Ark, Table, Candlestick, Altar Incense

37:1-29

5. Making of Altar of Burnt Offering & Brass Laver

38:1-8

6. Making of Court of Tabernacle

38:9-20

7. Total Amount of Supplies Offered

36:21-31

8. Making of Priests Garments

39:1-31

9. Completion of Tabernacle

39:32-43

D. Completion of the Tabernacle

40:1-38

1. Setting up of Tabernacle

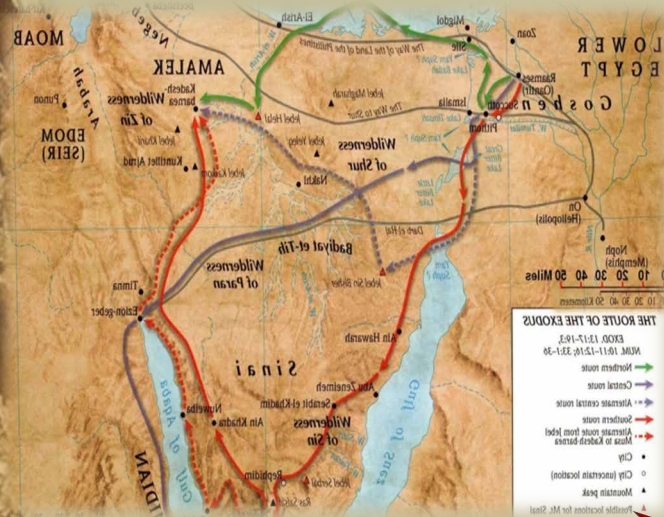
40:1-12

2. Consecration of Aaron and sons

40:13-33

3. Glory of the Lord Appears

40:34-38



You are
HERE

We will leave Exodus with the **CLOUD** over the Tabernacle

FIRE will be in the cloud at night

When the **Cloud LIFTS** ... *they go*

When the **Cloud STAYS** ... *they stay*

Dramatic ... yet, they way they **LIVED**

NO ONE ... ZERO ... NONE

No one VIOLATED the sanctuary

Don't go inside the TABERNACLE

uninvited

Day in .. Day out ... **SAFE**

As long as they did what they were
supposed to do ... *they remained SAFE*



Reminds me of a special place here in the United States

Day in ... Day out ...

People pass by ... *safely*

Inside resides the powerful
leader of the powerful country

in the history of the world

Day in ... Day out ...

People pass by ... *safely*

But CLIMB the fence

Jump the fence ... and what?

Not Safe ANYMORE



Last half of Exodus ... Israel at the foot of Mt. Sinai

15-18 > To Sinai: Bitter Water, Quail, Manna, Water, Amalek, Jethro Advises

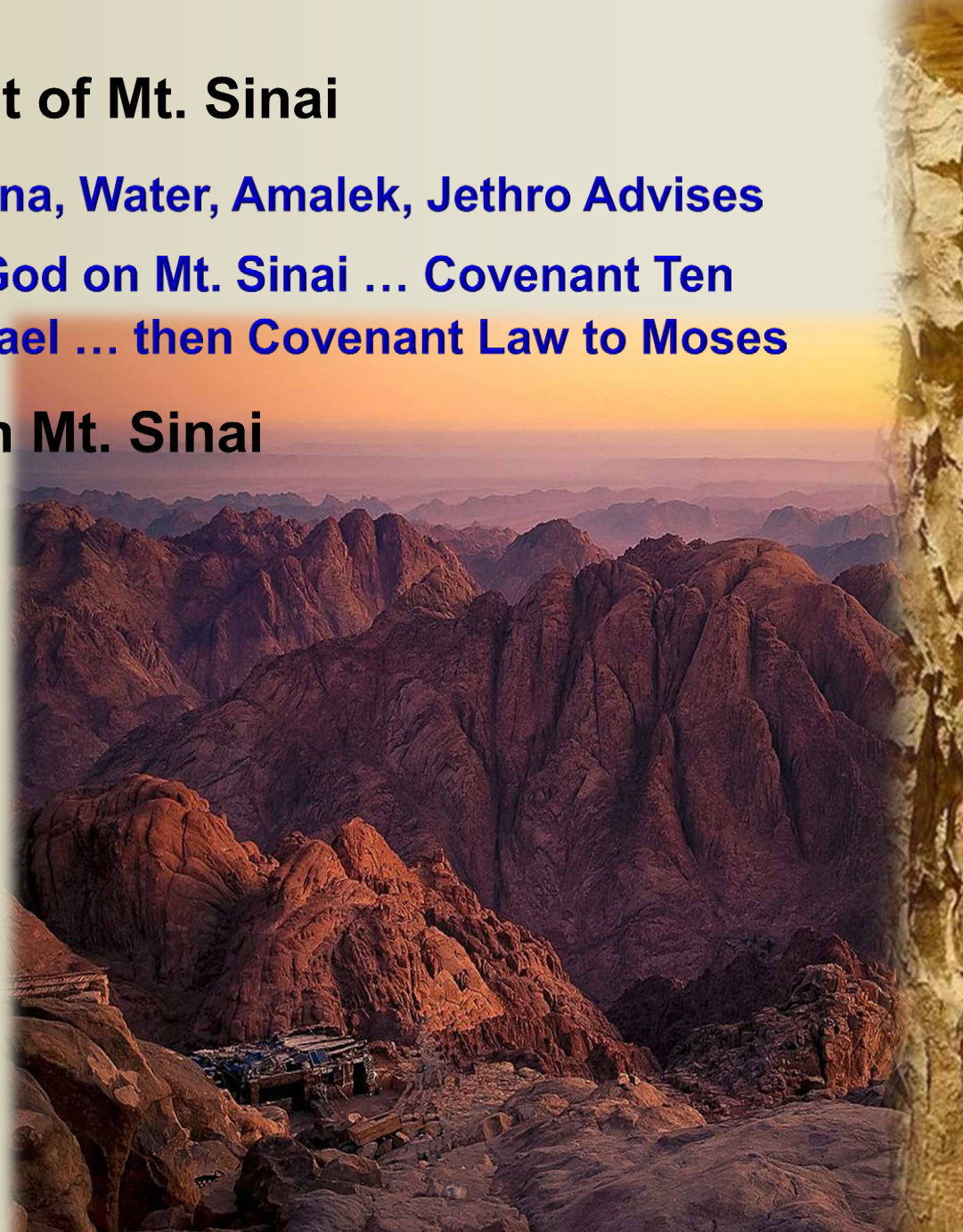
19-24 > At the Foot of Mount Sinai: God on Mt. Sinai ... Covenant Ten Commandments GIVEN to ALL Israel ... then Covenant Law to Moses

25:1-31:11, Tabernacle Specs Given on Mt. Sinai

31:12-35:3, Between Specs & Build

- ✓ **Two Tablets**
- ✓ **Mad Cow Disease & Judgment**
- ✓ **Moses again 40 days**
- ✓ **Another Set of Tablets**
- ✓ **Moses' Shining Face**
- ✓ **Another Reminder of Sabbath**

35:4 to 39:43, MOSES instructs ALL



Exodus 39:42-43 – Finished – Moses Inspected & Blessed

35:4 to 39:43, MOSES instructing ALL

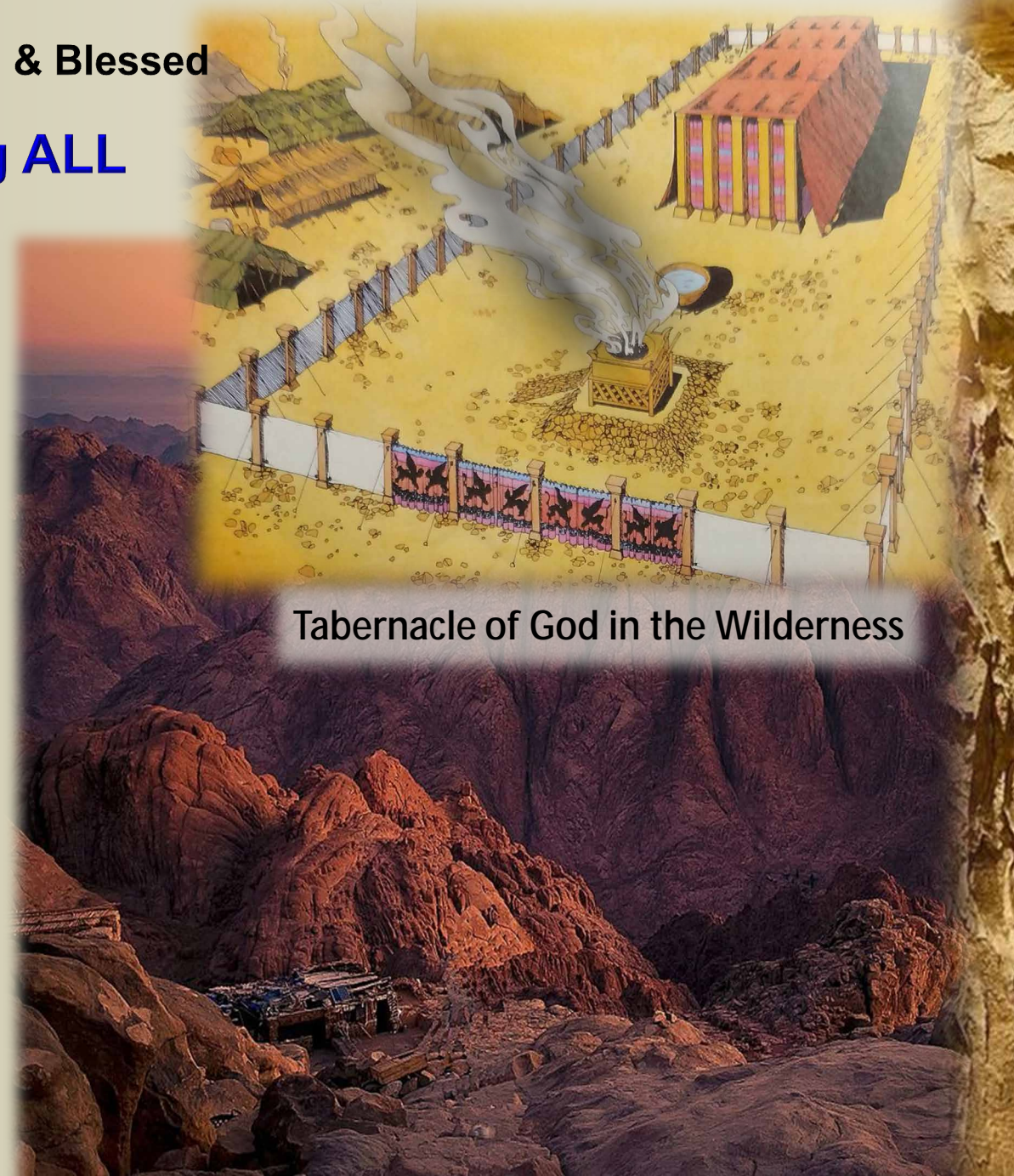
⁴² Israelites had done ALL the work just as the LORD had commanded Moses.

⁴³ Moses inspected the work and saw that they had done it just as the LORD had commanded.

So Moses *BLESSED* them.

Chapter 39 ends ...

You know what a “blessing” is
Oh, if we could have KNOWN the
WORDS to that BLESSING



Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness

Exodus 40:1-4 Assembly Required – “Set Up the Tabernacle”

Chapter 40 opens with ORDERS

- ¹ Then the LORD said to Moses:
- ² “Set up the tabernacle,
the tent of meeting,
on the first day of the first month.
- ³ Place the ark of the covenant law in
it and shield the ark with the curtain.
- ⁴ Bring in the table and set out
what belongs on it.
Then bring in the lampstand and
set up its lamps.

Fashioned by artisans *INSPIRED* by the
God whose Presence Comes Down



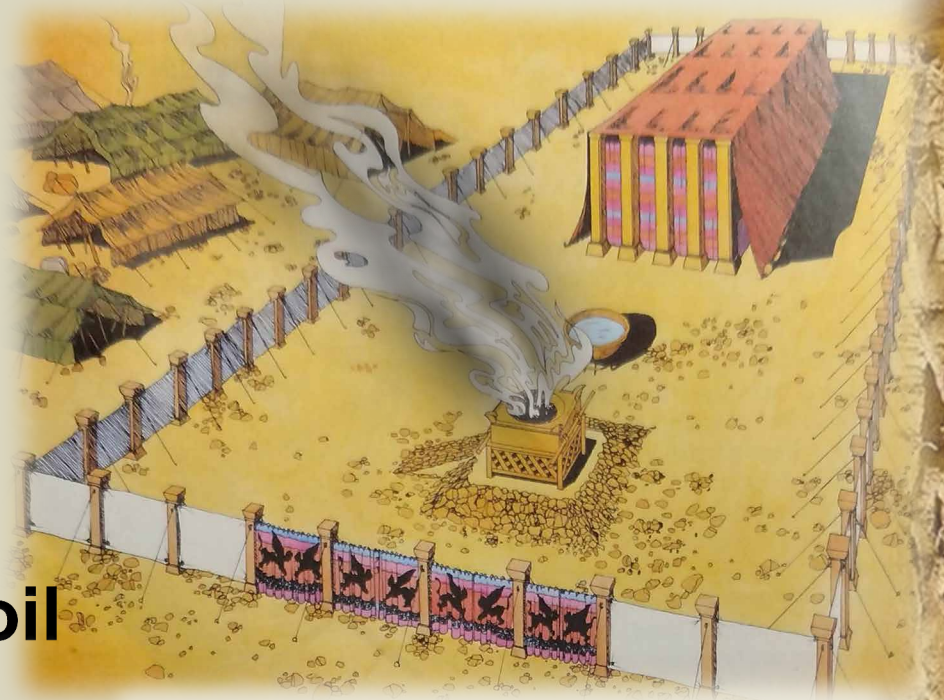
Tabernacle
Lampstand

Exodus 40:5-33 Tabernacle Set Up

40:5-15, God tells Moses to:

- ✓ **Thou shalt set ... the Altar**
- ✓ **Thou shalt set ... the Laver**
- ✓ **Thou shalt take the anointing oil**
- ✓ **Thou shalt anoint ...**
- ✓ **Thou shalt bring Aaron ...**

40:16-33, Moses does all the above



Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness

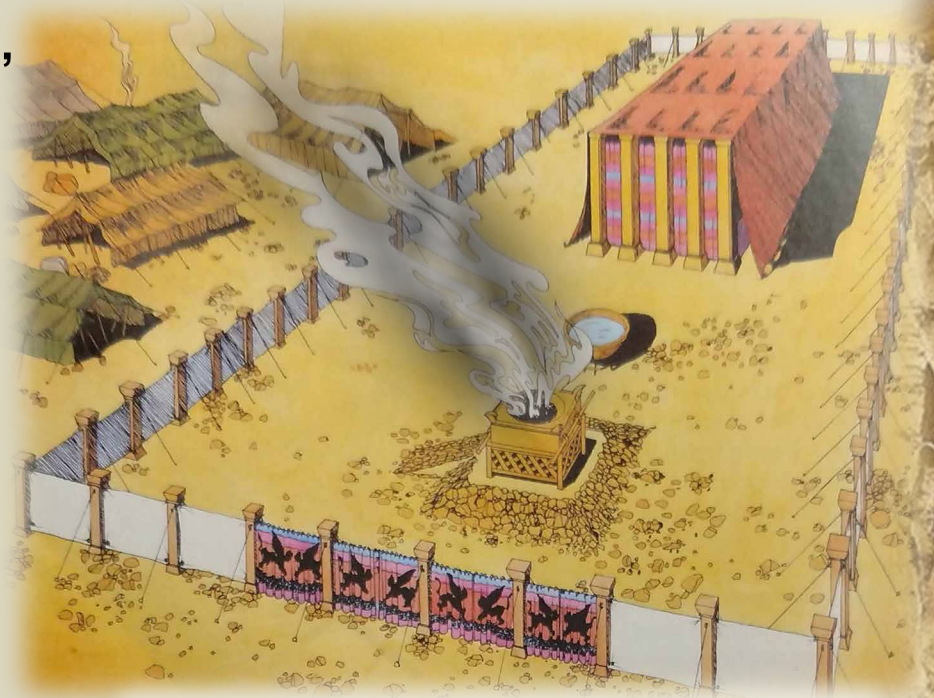
Exodus 40:34-35 Glory Shown – “Glory of LORD Filled”

Then the ...

Shekinah Glory

³⁴ Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

³⁵ Moses could not enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.



Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness

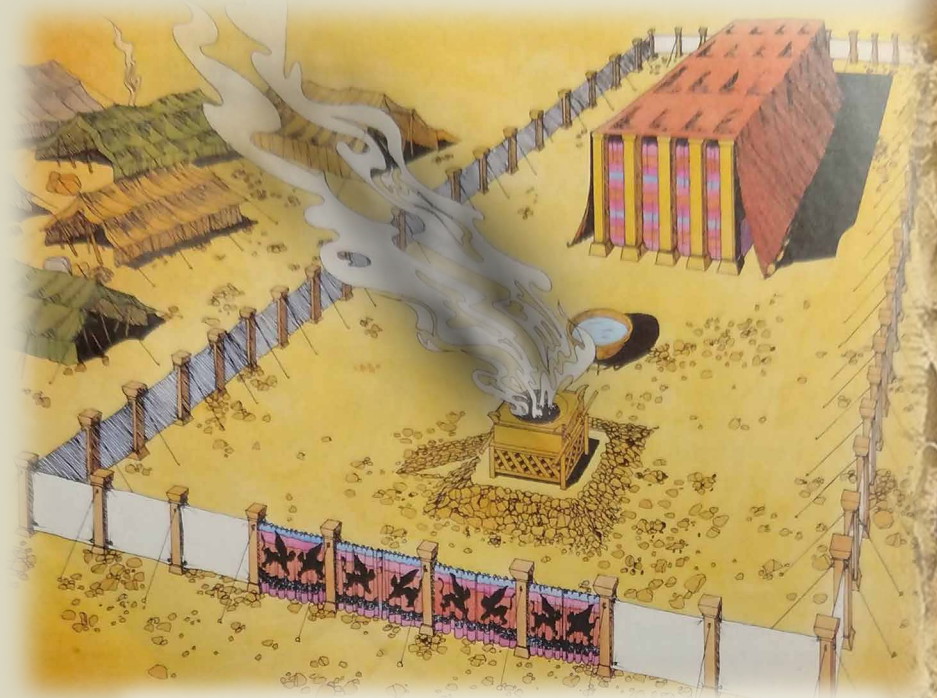
What “filled” the Tabernacle?

GLORY
of the LORD

Exodus 40:36-38 God Led – “In all the Travels”

Intriguing ... see this:

- ³⁶ In all the travels of the Israelites, whenever the cloud lifted from above the tabernacle, they would set out;**
- ³⁷ but if the cloud did not lift, they did not set out—until the day it lifted.**
- ³⁸ So the cloud of the LORD was over the tabernacle by day, and fire was in the cloud by night, in the sight of all the Israelites during all their travels.**



Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness

Now that is very, very convenient ...

God's Will?

Just look at the cloud!

Exodus 40:38-39 the is most intriguing
Twice ... two times in a row

glory of the LORD
filled the tabernacle.

We've heard that from our youth.

The renditions in art are few ... WHY?

What is to SHOW? ... a *CLOUD*?

What is clear ... even spectacular

Is that ISRAEL knew ... more than a "cloud"

Over the centuries,
a term has come into use



Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness

Shekinah = to settle, inhabit, dwell
Hebrew transliterated into English
Hebrew “*shekinah*” made w English letters

Shekinah = “to settle, inhabit, dwell”
Root often used for birds “settling, nesting”

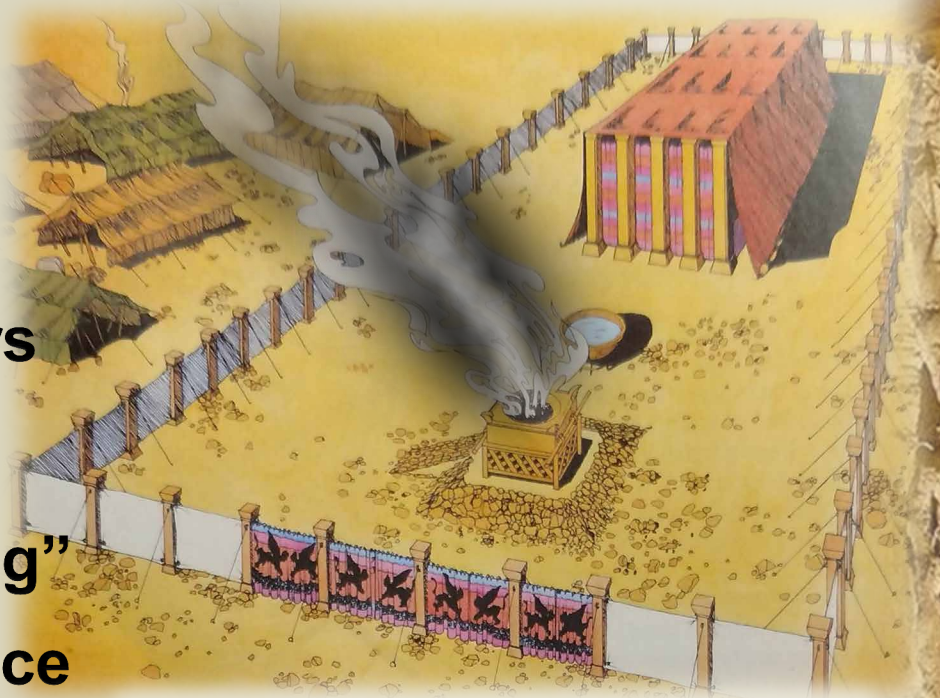
Tabernacle *SAME* root: “dwelling” place

Shekinah refers to “Divine Presence”

Some see the *Shekinah* interpreted into the
Greek term *Parousia*, “coming”

As in Matthew 24:3,

“What will the sign of your **COMING**”



Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness

Parousia 24x in N.T.

- ✓ of Paul & others
- ✓ Lawless One in 2 Thess.

✓ 17x as Second
COMING of Christ

Shekinah = to settle, inhabit, dwell

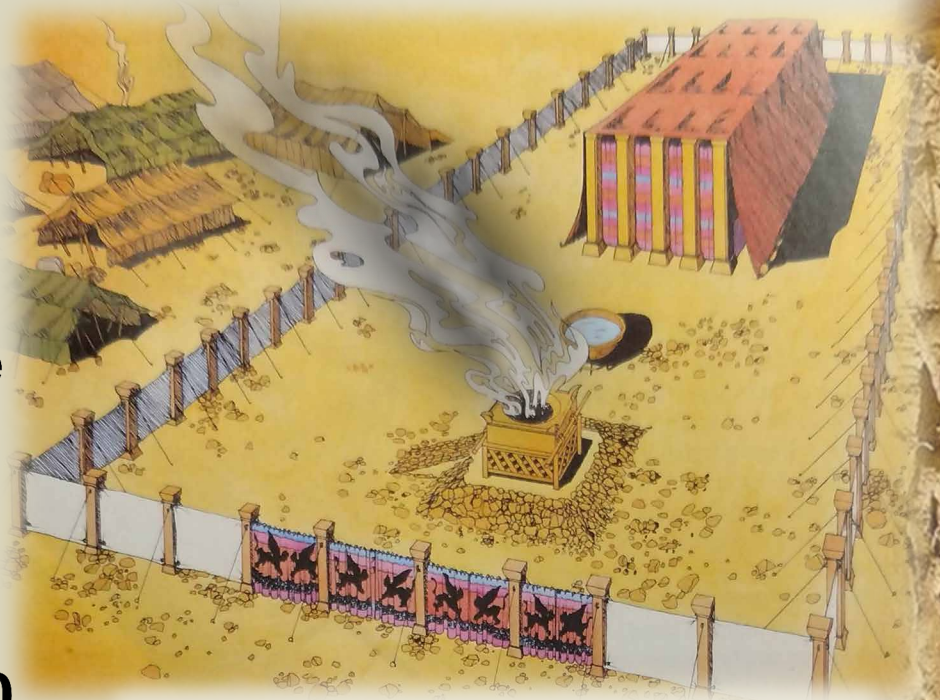
- ✓ Doesn't appear in the Bible
- ✓ Doesn't appear in early rabbinic literature
- ✓ Doesn't appear in the Dead Sea Scrolls

Some believe the term came into use
AFTER Romans destroyed Temple A.D. 70

Root for birds “settling, nesting”

Root for Tabernacle as a “dwelling” place

Shekinah refers to “Divine Presence”



Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness

Shekinah = to settle, inhabit, dwell

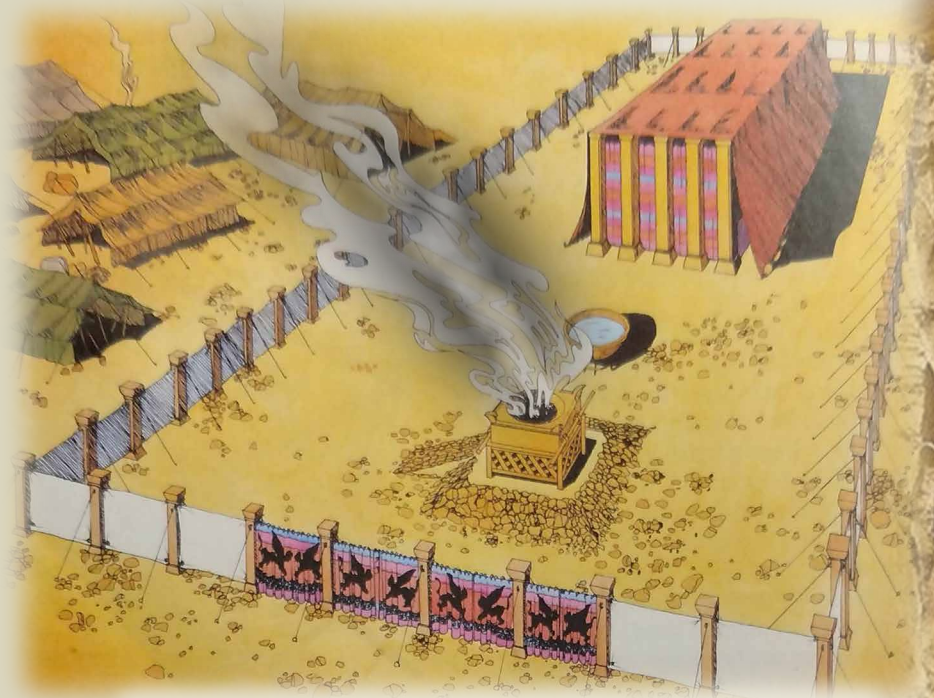
See the Divine Presence in the O.T.

Samuel anointed Saul, then said in
1 Sam. 10:6,

**The Spirit of the LORD will come
powerfully upon you, and you will
prophecy with them; and you will be
changed into a different person.**

There are other times and ways

A similarly spectacular “coming” was
when Solomon finished the Temple



Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness

Solomon's Temple

1 Kings 6:1, in the 418th year that
Israel came out of Egypt ...
in the 4th year of Solomon's reign
He began to build the temple

1 Kings 6:2-38, building of the Temple

1 Kings 7, Palace & Temple are **FINISHED**

1 Kings 7:51, Solomon brought all
the things his "father" King David had
dedicated into the Temple Treasury

1 Kings 8, with great pomp & ceremony
Solomon brings the Ark of the Covenant
into the great Temple



King Solomon's Temple

Solomon's Temple

Ark of the Covenant in the great Temple

**Ark had ONLY two tablets placed
in it by Moses at Horeb**

1 Kings 8:10-11, Glory of the LORD

**¹⁰ When the priests withdrew from
the Holy Place, the cloud filled
the temple of the LORD.**

**¹¹ the priests could not perform their
service because of the cloud, for the
glory of the LORD
filled his temple.**



King Solomon's Temple

Shekinah

Glory of the Lord

What IS that?

Presence of God!

We ... New Testament believers
And Church Fathers of yore
Point to our risen Lord and his words:
Matt. 18:20, “Where two or three are
gathered together in my name
there am I in their midst.”

To shepherds in a field in Luke 2:9,
An angel of the Lord appeared to
them, and the glory of the Lord shone
around them, and they were terrified.
John 17:22, I have given them the glory
that you gave me, that they may be
one as we are one.



Jesus and Miraculous Draft of Fishes, Raphael,
commissioned 1515 by Pope Leo X for the Sistine Chapel

Jesus and Miraculous
Draft of Fishes
by Raphael (1483-1520)
commissioned 1515
by Pope Leo X
for the Sistine Chapel



The Great Epistles, too

Romans 8:9,

You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you.

1 Cor. 3:16,

Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst?

2 Tim 1:14,

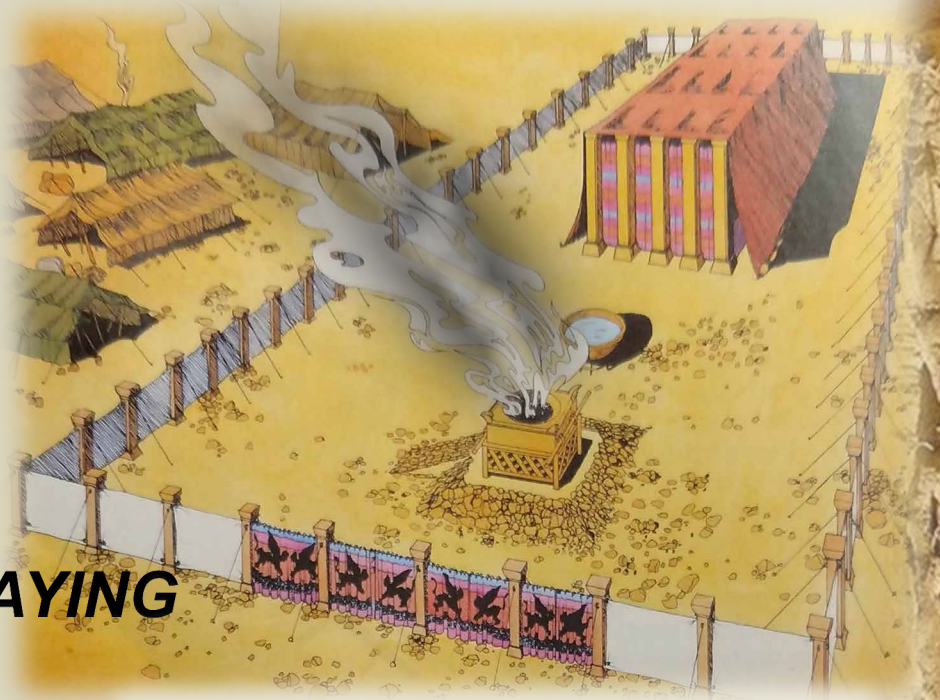
Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you—guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.



Jesus and Miraculous Draft of Fishes, Raphael, commissioned 1515 by Pope Leo X for the Sistine Chapel

Shekinah = to settle, inhabit, dwell
Jewish tradition informs us more
Shekinah – “glory” & “radiance” is said:

- ✓ **Rests** on the Pious & Righteous
- ✓ **Rests** on 10 or more Worshipers **PRAYING**
- ✓ **Rests** on those Studying the Torah
- ✓ **Rests** on Jews Reciting the Shema Deut. 6:4
- ✓ **Rests** on Holy Places: Mt. Sinai, Tabernacle, Temple
- ✓ **Rests** on the Chaste & Benevolent
- ✓ **Rests** on Husband & Wife when they live
in peace and harmony



Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness



Shekinah = to settle, inhabit, dwell

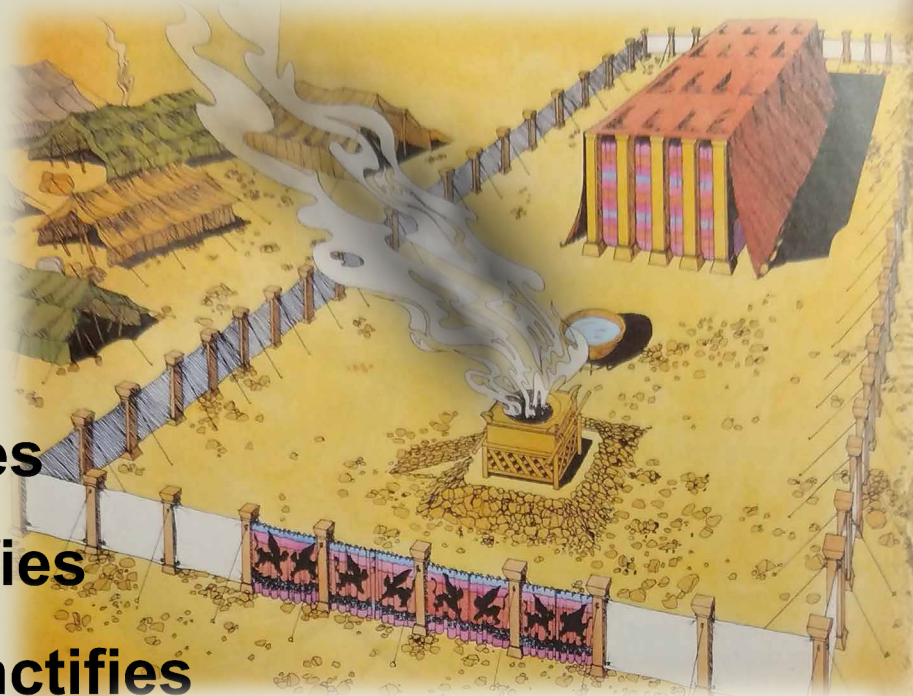
Jewish scholars definitively note the Shekinah as *God's Presence*

- ✓ *Rests* on those **PLACES** God sanctifies
- ✓ *Rests* on those **OBJECTS** God sanctifies
- ✓ *Rests* on those **INDIVIDUALS** God sanctifies
- ✓ *Rests* on a whole **PEOPLE** God sanctifies

In the above, this is a

“revelation of the holy in
the midst of the profane.”*

* [Encyclopedia Judaica](#)



Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness



Shekinah = to settle, inhabit, dwell

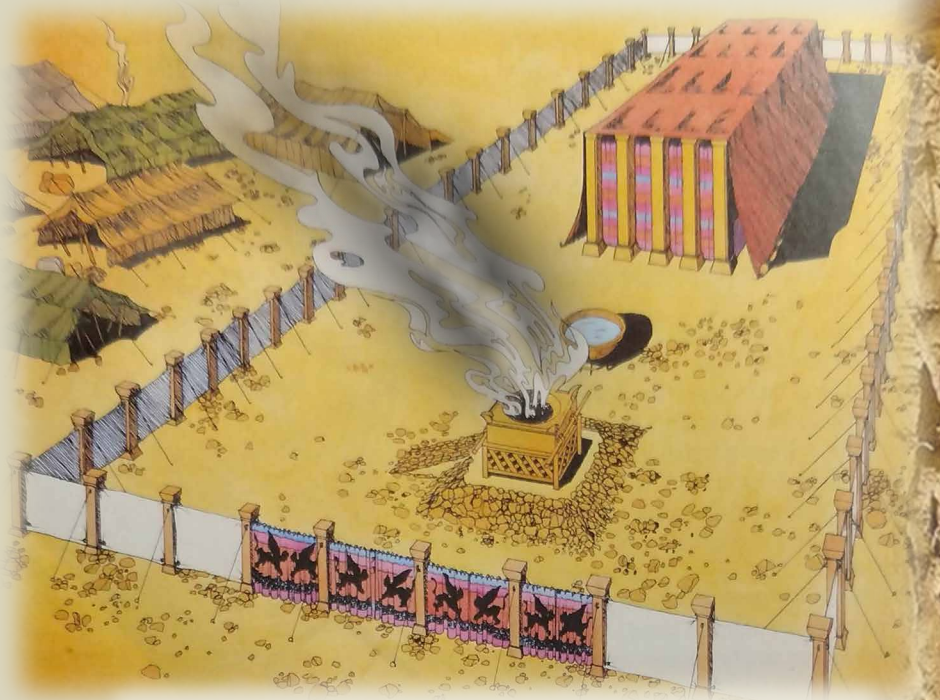
Rabbis believed it was the

Shekinah appeared before Moses

- ✓ At the burning bush
- ✓ At the Tabernacle in the Wilderness
- ✓ At the dedication Jerusalem Temple

Talmudic Sages waxed poetic ... reflecting
Shekinah glory had an

- ✓ Indescribable Beauty
- ✓ Exalting Effect
- ✓ Brilliant LIGHT or Radiance



Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness



Shekinah = to settle, inhabit, dwell

NOT Rabbis, but later Jewish Philosophers
went in another direction altogether

Philosophers were did NOT see GOD
or see God's ESSENCE in the Shekinah

DENIED all forms of anthropomorphism
giving human attributes to God or animal

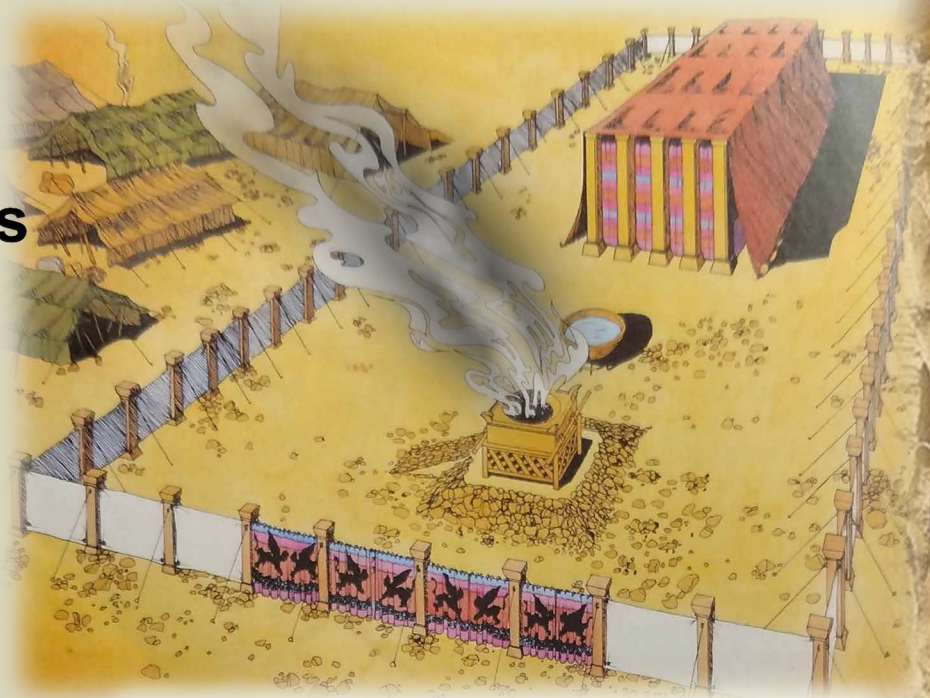
Rather, Shekinah was a separate entity
created by GOD ...

HIS GLORY ... "Light or Radiance" itself

"Light" mediated between God & Man

Sometimes ... catch this ... GRAB THIS

"Light" mediating appeared in form of a MAN



Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness



Maimonides

Rabbi Moses ben Maimon (1135-1204)

One of the most revered, prolific Rabbis

Maimonides explained the Shekinah

As “created light” = identified as “Glory”

An overflow from God through the intellect

We apprehend God by means of that LIGHT

Which *overflows* to each of us ...



Maimonides

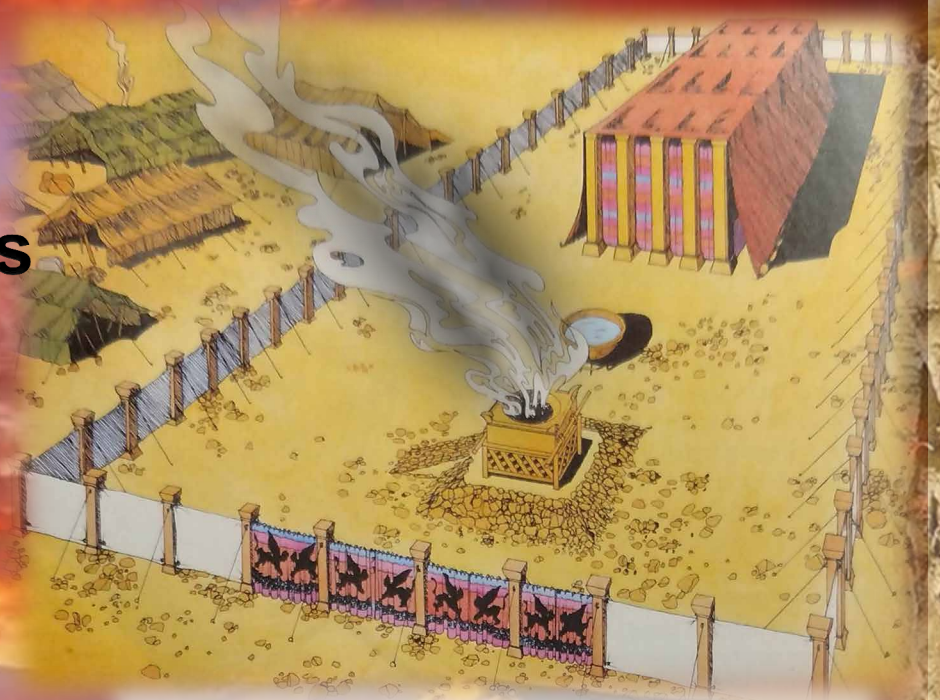
Rabbi Moses ben Maimon

A.D. 1135-1204

LIGHT from God reveals God to us
Maimonides & other Jewish scholars
Actually refer to Psalm 36:9

For with you
is the fountain of life;
in your LIGHT we see LIGHT.

Shekinah Glory



Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness

Shekinah Glory

³⁴ Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

³⁵ Moses could not enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.



TODAY

God **RESTS** in us
and **MEETS** us in

Our Hearts

