

February 2, 2025

Exodus

- 1-4 Moses—Burning Bush, “Take off your shoes” Exodus 40:34-35
- 5-11 Moses—Pharaoh, “Let my people go!”
- 12-13 Moses—First Passover, “When I see the BLOOD”
- 1 Luke—Angel Gabriel to Mary—the Messiah
- 14-15 Moses—Parting of Red Sea
- 16-19 Moses—Manna from Heaven
- 20 Moses—Ten Commandments
- 21-24 Moses—Covenant Laws
- 25-39 Moses—Golden Calf, Mo
2nd set of Two Tablets

40 Moses—Set Up the Tabernacle

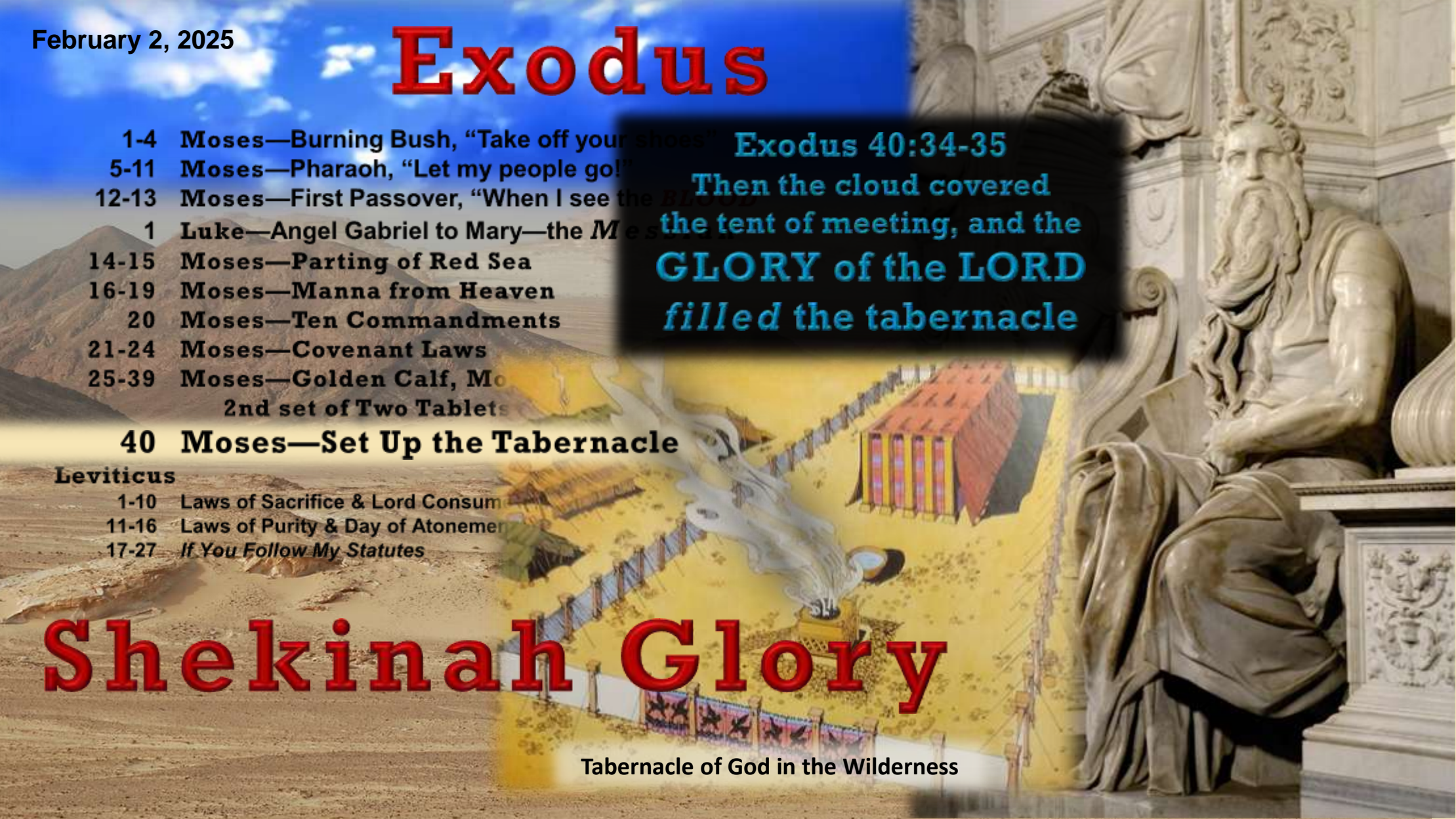
Leviticus

- 1-10 Laws of Sacrifice & Lord Consumes
- 11-16 Laws of Purity & Day of Atonement
- 17-27 If You Follow My Statutes

Then the cloud covered
the tent of meeting, and the
GLORY of the LORD
filled the tabernacle

Shekinah Glory

Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness



Summary of Mosaic Covenant

chapters

- 20 **Ten Commandments**
- 21-23 **Covenant Laws**
- 24 **Covenant Confirmation** –
Moses' 40 Days & Nights
- 25-31 Moses & Tabernacle Details
- 32 Golden Calf, Moses Smashes
Two Tablets – Kills Rebels
- 33 God Threatens – Moses Sees God's GLORY Pass by
- 34 2nd **Two Tablets** & **Covenant Renewal**
Moses' 40 Days & Nights – Moses' Radiance
- 35-39 Tabernacle Parts Built & Prepared
- 40 Tabernacle Completed & Dedicated





Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness

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

Key Verse – Exodus 40:34 & 35

**Then the CLOUD covered
the tent of meeting, and
the GLORY of the LORD
filled the tabernacle.**

said TWICE

Alternate Title

Shekinah Glory for Us

What is

GLORY of the **LORD**?

- ✓ Can You **SEE GLORY**?
- ✓ Can You **FEEL GLORY**?

- ❖ When a Great War is **WON**
- ❖ When an Olympic Champion **WINS**
- ❖ When the Medal of Honor is **Awarded**
- ❖ When Your Child Takes His/Her First Steps
- ❖ When a Person Overcomes a **GREAT & HARD** Obstacle

We **SEE & FEEL GLORY** in our **BONES**

What is **GLORY**? It is always attached to an **ACTION**
GLORY only Applies to Whoever Has Done **Great DEEDS**



Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness

Exodus 40:34 & 35 the is most intriguing
Twice ... *two times* in a row

GLORY of the **LORD** *filled* the tabernacle.

GLORY 13x of 200x in 32 variations

Almost always translated "**GLORY**"

Sometimes translated "**HONOR**"

- ✓ We intuitively know a bit of **GLORY** & **HONOR**
- ✓ Yet a FULL definition is so very allusive, hard to grasp
- ✓ We all know what "**LOVE**" means, yet forever & ever
Poets & Song Writers have YET to exhaust "**LOVE**"

Likewise allusive is **GLORY** & **HONOR** of **GOD**

No One REALLY *Knows* Precisely & Definitively



Exodus 40:34 & 35 the is most intriguing
Twice ... *two times* in a row

GLORY of the **LORD**
filled the tabernacle.

Yet, we SEEM to know a LITTLE

Israelites **SAW** & **FELT** something

IF Mike Tyson Walked into this Class ...

IF King David or Solomon Walked into this Class ...

IF George Washington or Gandhi or Trump Walked into this Class ...

IF Helen Keller or Billy Graham or Corrie Ten Boom ...

IF **Moses** or **Elijah** or **Jesus** Walked into this Class

Unable to Define "**GLORY**" – we Know in our hearts *DEGREES* of

GLORY & HONOR



Exodus 40:34 & 35 is most intriguing
Twice ... *two times* in a row Moses says

GLORY of the **LORD**
filled the tabernacle.

We've heard that from our youth.

Renditions in art are few ... WHY?

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

What is clear & even spectacular is that
ISRAEL knew it was more than a "CLOUD"

Over two millennia a term has arisen to
refer to the "Divine Presence"

Shekinah



Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness

Shekinah = to settle, inhabit, dwell
come to mean “**Divine Presence**”

- ✓ Doesn't appear in the Bible –
nor does the term “Trinity”
- ✓ Doesn't appear in early rabbinic literature
- ✓ Doesn't appear in the Dead Sea Scrolls

1st appears in **Jewish Targums** 1st century,
Translations of the Hebrew O.T. into
Aramaic with extensive commentary

Hebrew Root for birds “settling, nesting”

Transliteration of Hebrew into English – sound w English letters

Shekinah now refers to the

“**Divine Presence**”



Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness

Shekinah = to settle, inhabit, dwell
referring to “Divine Presence”

Some see the **Shekinah** interpreted
into the Greek term *Parousia*,
Greek word for “**COMING**”

As in Matthew 24:3,

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

Parousia 24x in N.T.

✓ of Paul & others “*coming*”

✓ Lawless One “*coming*” in 2 Thess.

✓ 17x as Second

COMING of Christ



Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness

Cannot define GLORY yet
know it when we *FEEL AWE*

Philippians 2:10

At the name of Jesus *every*
knee should bow ... in heaven
... on earth ... under the earth

Tabernacle PREP is done

Exodus 39 Moses inspects all

Exodus 40 God tells Moses to

- ✓ **Assemble ALL**
- ✓ **Anoint with Oil**

Places Two Tablets into the Ark

Places Ark inside Holy Place

Hangs curtains ... finishes Tabernacle ... *t h e n*



Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness

Shekinah

Glory of Lord *FILLS* Tabernacle

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

S i n a i

Ezion-geber

Ain Hawarah

Abu Zeneimeh

Serabit el-Khadim

**Wilderness
of Sin**

Nuweiba

Ain Khadra

Rephidim

Jebel Serbal

Ras Safsaf

Jebel Musa

Jebel

Katarina

Jebel Umm
Shomar

Dahab

MIDIAN

el-Khrob

El-Tor

**Jebel Musa
Mt. Horeb**

*Horeb can refer to
whole mountain range
or East Side*

Atlas ©

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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 TABENACLE

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 most powerful
leader of the most 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



35:4 to 39:43, MOSES instructing ALL

39:42 Israelites had done ALL the work just as the LORD had commanded Moses.

39:43 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

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 & shield the **ARK** with the curtain.

⁴ Bring in the table and set out
what belongs on it.

Then bring in the lampstand
& set up its lamps.

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

LAMP represents Light, Eternity, CHRIST

7 for 7 Churches



**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 ... 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

Intriguing ... what follows ...

- 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.



very, very convenient ...

God's Will?

Just look at the CLOUD!



Exodus 40:34 & 35 the is most intriguing
Twice ... *two times* in a row

GLORY of the **LORD**
filled the tabernacle.
Divine Presence



Tabernacle of God in the Wilderness

Shekinah

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

1 Kings 8:10-11 Ark had ONLY the
Two Tablets in ARK c. 977 B.C.

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



King Solomon's Temple

GLORY of the LORD
filled his temple.

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 ...
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, 1515
by Raphael (1483-1520)**

**Commissioned 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” *rests*

- ✓ **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

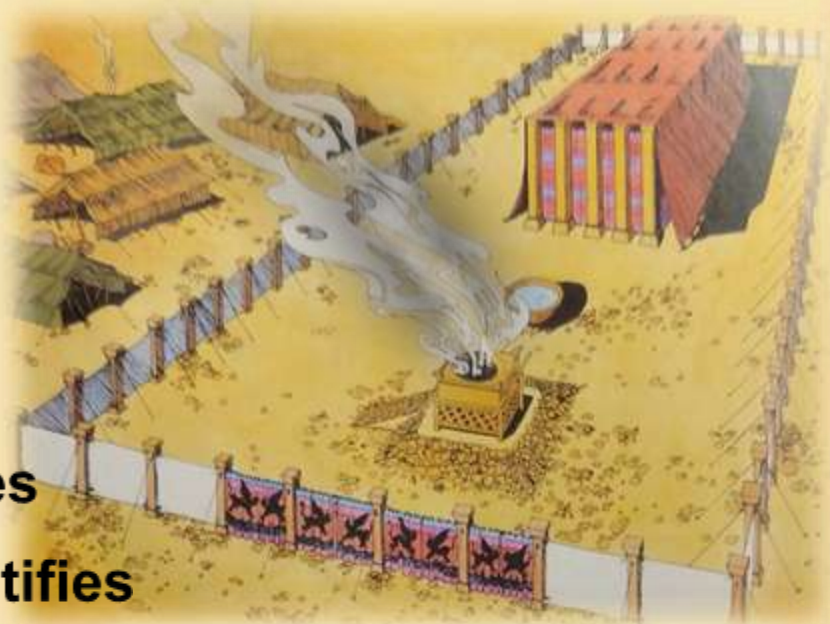
Jewish scholars definitively note the
Shekinah as *God's Presence*

- ✓ *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 did NOT see GOD or see
God's ESSENCE in the **Shekinah**
DENIED all forms of anthropomorphism
giving human attributes to God or animals

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

Daniel 3 King Nebuchadnezzar II saw FOUR in the Fire



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

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TODAY

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

Our Hearts

