

12.18 Second Time on the Mountain; God’s Glory; Instructions (Exodus 33:12–23; 34:1–35; Leviticus 25–27)

✓ “Check” it out; opinion, inference, supposed conversation, or fact one can verify follows.

[. . .] indicates a remark to the teacher that should not be read aloud. It also indicates answers to questions.

Visuals and Tools

- “Life of Moses” Series 2 Flash-a-Cards from A Beka Book and/or pictures and other visuals found at the end of this lesson. Please give credit to the sources of pictures.
- Check “Activities” and “Handwork” found below for additional materials.
- (optional) *Herein Is Love Commentary Series; Exodus, A Commentary for Children*, by Nancy Ganz, Shepherd Press, 2002. Quotations from this source will be noted by (*Ganz*).
- A veil made of fabric similar to a sheer curtain

Bible Time Tips and Terms to Teach: Tips and terms are enlarged for flashcards at the end of this lesson. Print, cut out, and glue to card stock, or just print on colorful cardstock.

- *ornaments*: jewelry and other items to decorate oneself
- *glory*: the splendor, holiness and majesty of God; God says in today’s lesson that His glory is His goodness
- *cleft*: a split
- *mercy*: loving kindness; steadfast love; withholding evil
- *grace*: good favor being given; giving good
- *the guilty*: those who have done wrong and know it
- *covenant*: an agreement between two people; today’s lesson speaks of a conditional covenant—“If you will do _____, I will do _____.”
- *jealousy*: (of God) His strong desire for the love and obedience of His people; “he admits of no rival or competitor in worship; he will not give his glory to another god, or one so called, nor his praise to graven images” (<https://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/gills-exposition-of-the-bible/exodus-34-14.html>)

Scripture: (NASB)

Exodus 33:12 Then Moses said to the LORD, “See, You say to me, ‘Bring up this people!’ But You Yourself have not let me know whom You will send with me. Moreover, You have said, ‘I have known you by name, and you have also found favor in My sight.’ 13 Now therefore, I pray You, if I have found favor in Your sight, let me know Your ways that I may know You, so that I may find favor in Your sight. Consider too, that this nation is Your people.” 14 And He said, “My presence shall go *with you*, and I will give you rest.” 15 Then he said to Him, “If Your presence does not go *with us*, do not lead us up from here. 16 For how then can it be known that I have found favor in Your sight, I and Your people? Is it not by Your going with us, so that we, I and Your people, may be distinguished from all the *other* people who are upon the face of the earth?”

17 The LORD said to Moses, “I will also do this thing of which you have spoken; for you have found favor in My sight and I have known you by name.” 18 Then Moses said, “I pray You, show me Your glory!” 19 And He said, “I Myself will make all My goodness pass before you, and will proclaim the name of the LORD before you; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show compassion on whom I will show compassion.” 20 But He said, “You cannot see My face, for no man can see Me and live!” 21 Then the LORD said, “Behold, there is a place by Me, and you shall stand *there* on the rock; 22 and it will come about, while

My glory is passing by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock and cover you with My hand until I have passed by. 23 Then I will take My hand away and you shall see My back, but My face shall not be seen.”

34:1 Now the LORD said to Moses, “Cut out for yourself two stone tablets like the former ones, and I will write on the tablets the words that were on the former tablets which you shattered. 2 So be ready by morning, and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai, and present yourself there to Me on the top of the mountain. 3 No man is to come up with you, nor let any man be seen anywhere on the mountain; even the flocks and the herds may not graze in front of that mountain.” 4 So he cut out two stone tablets like the former ones, and Moses rose up early in the morning and went up to Mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him, and he took two stone tablets in his hand. 5 The LORD descended in the cloud and stood there with him as he called upon the name of the LORD. 6 Then the LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth; 7 who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin; yet He will by no means leave *the guilty* unpunished, visiting the iniquity of fathers on the children and on the grandchildren to the third and fourth generations.” 8 Moses made haste to bow low toward the earth and worship. 9 He said, “If now I have found favor in Your sight, O Lord, I pray, let the Lord go along in our midst, even though the people are so obstinate, and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us as Your own possession.”

10 Then God said, “Behold, I am going to make a covenant. Before all your people I will perform miracles which have not been produced in all the earth nor among any of the nations; and all the people among whom you live will see the working of the LORD, for it is a fearful thing that I am going to perform with you.

11 “Be sure to observe what I am commanding you this day: behold, I am going to drive out the Amorite before you, and the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Perizzite, the Hivite and the Jebusite. 12 Watch yourself that you make no covenant with the inhabitants of the land into which you are going, or it will become a snare in your midst. 13 But *rather*, you are to tear down their altars and smash their *sacred* pillars and cut down their Asherim 14—for you shall not worship any other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God— 15 otherwise you might make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land and they would play the harlot with their gods and sacrifice to their gods, and someone might invite you to eat of his sacrifice, 16 and you might take some of his daughters for your sons, and his daughters might play the harlot with their gods and cause your sons *also* to play the harlot with their gods. 17 You shall make for yourself no molten gods.

18 “You shall observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread. For seven days you are to eat unleavened bread, as I commanded you, at the appointed time in the month of Abib, for in the month of Abib you came out of Egypt.

19 “The first offspring from every womb belongs to Me, and all your male livestock, the first offspring from cattle and sheep. 20 You shall redeem with a lamb the first offspring from a donkey; and if you do not redeem *it*, then you shall break its neck. You shall redeem all the firstborn of your sons. None shall appear before Me empty-handed.

21 “You shall work six days, but on the seventh day you shall rest; *even* during plowing time and harvest you shall rest. 22 You shall celebrate the Feast of Weeks, *that is*, the first fruits of the wheat harvest, and the Feast of Ingathering at the turn of the year. 23 Three times a year all your males are to appear before the Lord GOD, the God of Israel. 24 For I will drive out nations before you and enlarge your borders, and no man shall covet your land when you go up three times a year to appear before the LORD your God.

25 “You shall not offer the blood of My sacrifice with leavened bread, nor is the sacrifice of the Feast of the Passover to be left over until morning.

26 “You shall bring the very first of the first fruits of your soil into the house of the LORD your God. “You shall not boil a young goat in its mother’s milk.”

27 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Write down these words, for in accordance with these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel.” 28 So he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he did not eat bread or drink water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments.

29 It came about when Moses was coming down from Mount Sinai (and the two tablets of the testimony were in Moses' hand as he was coming down from the mountain), that Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because of his speaking with Him. 30 So when Aaron and all the sons of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come near him. 31 Then Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the rulers in the congregation returned to him; and Moses spoke to them. 32 Afterward all the sons of Israel came near, and he commanded them *to do* everything that the LORD had spoken to him on Mount Sinai. 33 When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face. 34 But whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with Him, he would take off the veil until he came out; and whenever he came out and spoke to the sons of Israel what he had been commanded, 35 the sons of Israel would see the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face shone. So Moses would replace the veil over his face until he went in to speak with Him.

(The Leviticus passage is omitted here.)

Introduction/Review:

When Moses went up Mount Sinai (also called Mount Horeb) to plead for the people after they worshiped at a golden calf, God gave him disheartening information: He would send an angel to lead the Israelites, but God Himself would not go with them because He might destroy them on the way because of their stubbornness. "Tell the people," God said, "to take off any ornaments they are wearing. ✓Thus, they will show they are humbling themselves before Me."

The people willingly laid aside their ornaments, and from that time forward they never wore them again on the journey. But at the thought of God's not going with them, they mourned. ✓"God won't go with us? Oh, no! That can't be!" wailed the people.

Moses appealed to God, saying, "If I have indeed found favor in your sight, please show me now your ways so that I may know you—✓to know what pleases you. Also, don't forget that this nation is your people."

God answered, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."

Story:

Pleading to know God

✓Perhaps Moses didn't understand what God was saying to him, for he seemed still to be pleading with God to go with them: "If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here. If you do go with us, you will show all the nations that we are different from them because our God goes with us."

God again assured Moses that He would indeed be with the Israelites.

Continuing to want to know God more, Moses said, "Please show me your glory."

God answered, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The Lord.' I will show grace and mercy on the ones I choose to show grace and mercy. But, Moses," God said, "you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live. You shall stand by me on a rock. While my glory passes by, you will be in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back but not my face."

"Now," God said, "before you come up and I show you my glory, cut two more tablets of stone like the first, and I will write on the tablets the words that were on the first ones, which you broke. Come up in the morning to Mount Sinai, and meet me there on the top of the mountain."

So Moses cut out two more tablets of stone, got up early in the morning, and climbed Mount Sinai with his two tablets.

The Lord came down in the cloud and somehow stood with Moses there. This is how He showed His glory: He passed by Moses and proclaimed [use the visual found below with these words], "The Lord God, merciful and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for

thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty.” Oh, what a wonderful God we have. This description of Him shows His goodness; seven characteristics describe His loving character, and only one shows Him to be a judge.

Moses quickly bowed low to the earth and worshiped, but still he wanted to be sure God would go with the people. He said, “O Lord, please go in the midst of us even if we are a stiff-necked people. Please pardon our sin and take us for your inheritance.”

Promising blessing

Then God did an awesome thing—something that showed He was making the people His own. He said, “Look, I am making a covenant, and ✓this is what I will do in this covenant. [Refer to the poster-sized lists found at the end of this lesson.]

My presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest.

I will perform miracles which have not been produced in all the earth

I drive out the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Perizzite, the Hivite and the Jebusite out of the land.

I will enlarge your borders.

I will give my blessing in the sixth year; it will bring forth a crop that will last three years.

I will give you rains so that the land will yield its produce.

I shall grant peace in the land so that you will not need to fear.

I shall eliminate harmful beasts from the land.

No sword will pass through your land.

You will chase your enemies, and they will fall before your sword.

I will turn toward you and make you fruitful and multiply you.

I will confirm My covenant with you.

I will make My dwelling among you.

My soul will not reject you.

I will also walk among you and be your God.

You shall be My people.

That is quite a list of blessings promised by God!

Commanding obedience

“Now,” God continued, “as for the responsibilities of the people in this covenant, be careful not to make a covenant with any of those people so that they won't trap you. Rather, you shall tear down their altars and cut down their worship sites; otherwise, you will make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, and when you are invited to their worship and sacrifices of their gods, you will go after their gods. I am the Lord, whose name is Jealous, for I care that you love and worship only Me, the one true God.”

The possibility that the people would follow other gods was all too clear to Moses. Surely their recent worship at a golden calf would remind them how prone they were to worship idols. Oh, they'd better be careful!

Here are some of the things for which the people were responsible in their covenant with God:

Make no covenant with the inhabitants of the land.

Tear down the altars of false gods.

Keep the Ten Commandments, especially #1-4.

Appear (males) before God at feasts three times a year.

Dedicate firstborn male people and animals to God.

Observe Sabbath days, years, and the Year of Jubilee.

Do not sell the land.

Care for the poor.

Tithe.

These requirements don't seem to be too many nor too hard, but the consequences for disobedience were many and serious:

Threatening consequences

Sudden terror, consumption, pestilence, and fever that wastes away
Sowing seed uselessly for enemies would eat the plants
Being struck down before enemies who would rule over them
Fleeing when no one pursued
Being punished seven times more for their sins (stated 4 times)
Breaking down their pride of power
Making the sky like iron and the earth like bronze
Strength spent uselessly when the land wouldn't yield produce
Loosing the beasts of the field that would destroy children and cattle
God's hostility against them
Swords against them
Hunger
Destruction of their false altars
Making the land desolate with enemies settling there
Being scattered among the nations
Wasted cities

Despite all these serious threatened consequences, God said that if the people repented and asked God for forgiveness, then He would forgive.

Writing words

God told Moses to write all these words down so that they might be clearly understood. He kept Moses up in that mountain another forty days and nights. Again, Moses did not eat food or drink water all those days as he talked with God.

Shining face

When it was time to go back to the people, Moses carried the two tablets containing God's commandments. While he had been with God, something had happened to Moses that he didn't even know: his face was now shining. When he approached the people, they were afraid to come near him because the skin of his face shone. But Moses called them back to him.

When they returned, Moses commanded them all that the Lord had told him on Mount Sinai. After speaking with them, Moses put a veil over his face so that the people would not see the glory of God fading from his face as time passed (2 Corinthians 3:7). Whenever Moses went to the tent of meeting to hear from the Lord, he would remove the veil until he came out and told the people what God commanded. Then Moses would put the veil over his face again.

Lessons from this lesson:

- We see Jesus:

Jesus has as much glory as God the Father. "The Word [Jesus] became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14).

One day Jesus will come in power and great glory, and every eye shall see him. "Then they will see the Son of Man [Jesus] coming in a cloud with power and great glory" (Luke 21:27).

- Be comforted by knowing God is "merciful and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty" (Exodus 34:6, 7).

Activities:

- Play dough: tent; rock with a cleft; tablets
- Snack: Israel was to eat only unleavened bread with their sacrifices. See this site, <http://elijah.com/recipes.html>, for an authentic Jewish recipe.
- Sing “Stop! It’s the Law!” found in Lesson 12.15 “God Gives Laws,” or on the songs page at teachingthebibleto kids.org, where an audio and visuals are available.
- Sword drill: Find a characteristic of God in each verse. Write these characteristics, not in this order, on a chalkboard or white board: *glorious, holy, love, forgiving, faithfulness*. Have the student who first finds the verse circle the characteristic found in the verse. Here are the references: Deut. 28:58 (glorious); Lev. 20:7 (holy); 1 Jn 4:16 (love); Eph. 4:32 (forgiving); Psa. 119:90 (faithfulness)
- Play Hangman with the Ten Commandments. Find the tools for this game on the Lessons page, Lesson 12.15k, at teachingthebibleto kids.org.
- Review game: Hang random letters (found below) on a clothesline or place in a pocket chart. Each correct answer allows a student to unscramble one letter. The first person or team to unscramble the sentence wins. The answer is “God Is Love.”
 1. What spectacular thing did Moses want God to do? [Show Moses His glory.]
 2. What did God ask Moses to make before Moses returned to the mountain? [Two more tablets.]
 3. How did God show Moses His glory? [Hid him in a cleft of the rock, passed by with His hand over the cleft, proclaimed His goodness, and let Moses see His back.]
 4. What did Moses do after seeing God's glory? [Worshipped.]
 5. Name two characteristics that God used to describe Himself to Moses. [merciful, gracious, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty.]
 6. How long was Moses on Mount Horeb this time? [Another forty days and nights.]
 7. What was different about Moses when he came down from the mountain? [His face shone.]
 8. What did Moses do about his shining face? [Wore a veil after speaking to God or the people.]

Memory Verse[s]:

- Continue to learn Exodus 20:1–17. An enlarged copy is in Lesson 12.15; motions are in Lesson 12.16.

Handwork:

- Color the clipart of Moses found below. Color yellow rays of light doming from his face.

ornaments

glory

cleft

mercy

grace

the guilty

covenant

jealousy

The Lord passed
before him and
proclaimed,

“The LORD God,

merciful

and gracious,

slow to anger, and

abounding in
steadfast love

and **faithfulness,**
keeping steadfast
love for thousands,
forgiving iniquity
and transgression
and sin, but who
will by no means
clear the guilty”
(Exodus 34:6,7).

God's Part in the Covenant

My presence shall go *with you*, and I will give you rest.

I will perform miracles which have not been produced in all the earth

I drive out the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Perizzite, the Hivite and the Jebusite out of the land.

I will enlarge your borders.

I will give my blessing in the sixth year; it will bring forth a crop that will last three years.

I will give you rains so that the land will yield its produce.

I shall grant peace in the land so that you will not need to fear.

I shall eliminate harmful beasts from the land.

No sword will pass through your land.

You will chase your enemies, and they will fall before your sword.

I will turn toward you and make you fruitful and multiply you.

I will confirm My covenant with you.

I will make My dwelling among you.

My soul will not reject you.

I will also walk among you and be your God.

You shall be My people.

The People's Part in the Covenant

Make no covenant with the inhabitants of the land.

Tear down the altars of false gods.

Keep the Ten Commandments, especially #1-4.

Males must appear before God at feasts three times
a year.

Firstborn male people and animals are dedicated
to God.

Observe Sabbath days, years, and the Year of
Jubilee.

Do not sell the land.

Care for the poor.

Tithe.

Consequences for Disobedience

Sudden terror, consumption, pestilence, and fever
that wastes away

Sowing seed uselessly, for enemies will eat the
plants

Being struck down before enemies who will rule
over them

Fleeing when no one pursues

Being punished seven times more for their sins
(stated 4 times)

Breaking down their pride of power

Making the sky like iron and the earth like bronze

Strength spent uselessly when the land doesn't
yield produce

Loosing the beasts of the field that destroy children
and cattle

God's hostility against them

Swords against them

Being delivered into enemy hands

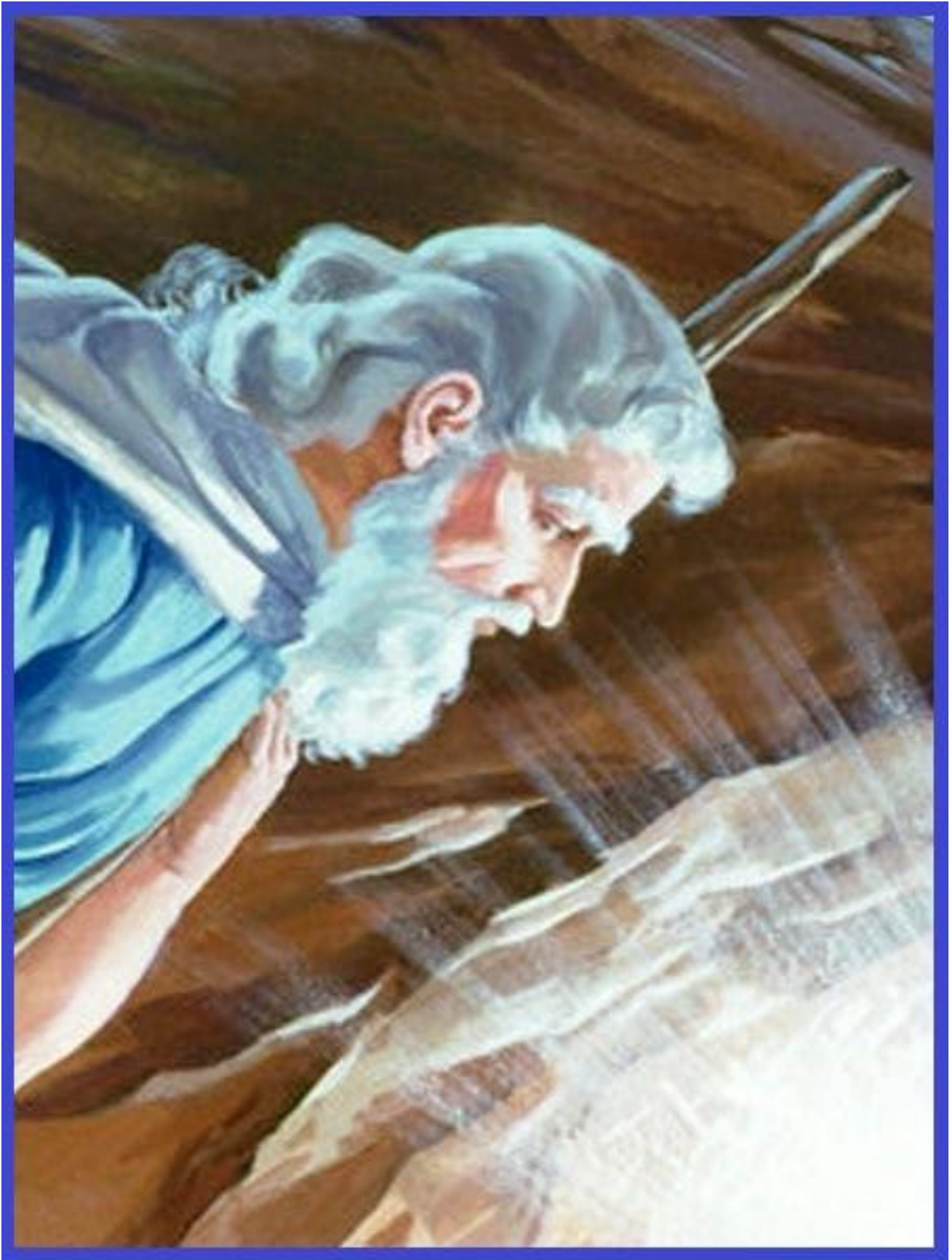
Hunger

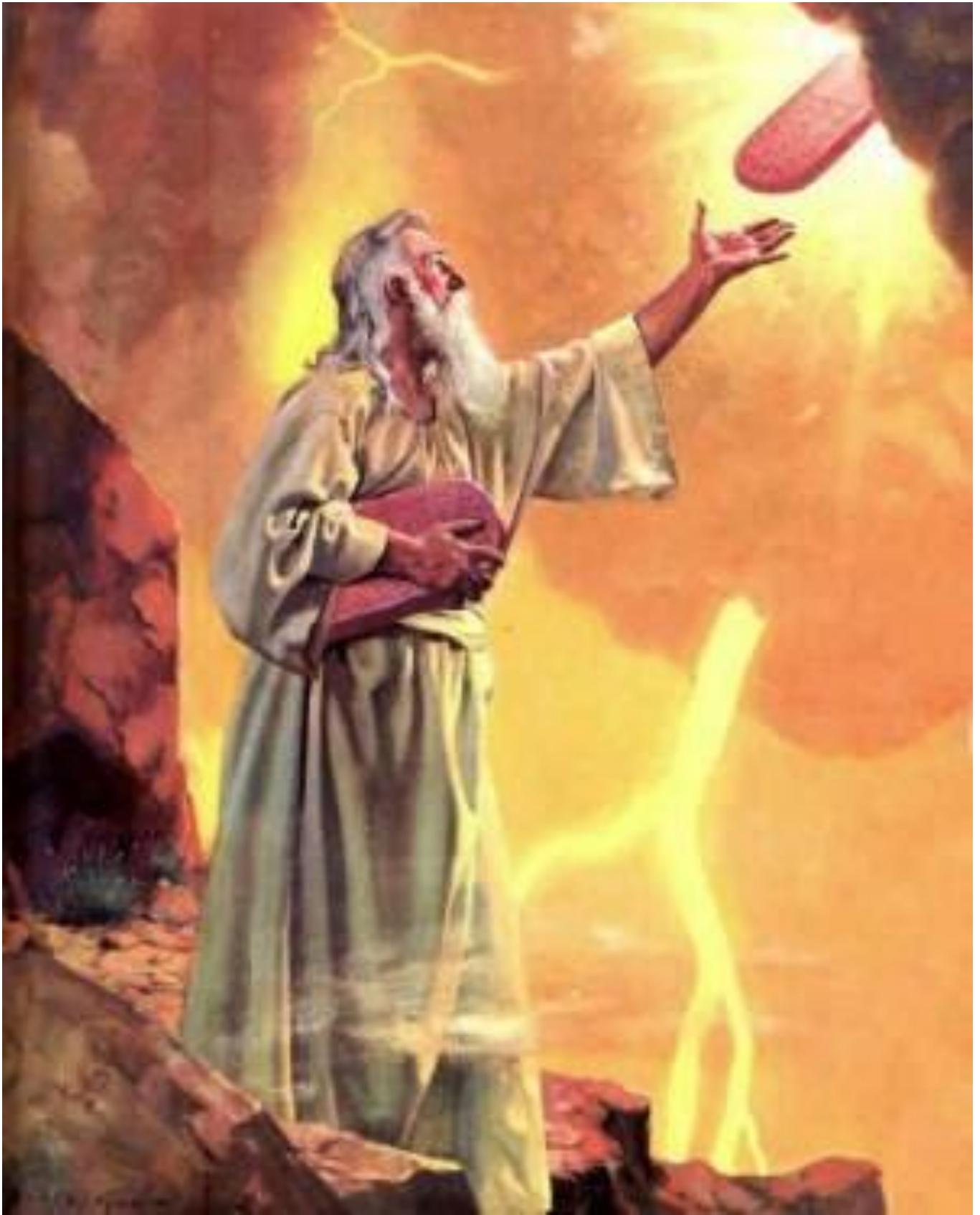
Destruction of their false altars

Making the land desolate with enemies settling
there

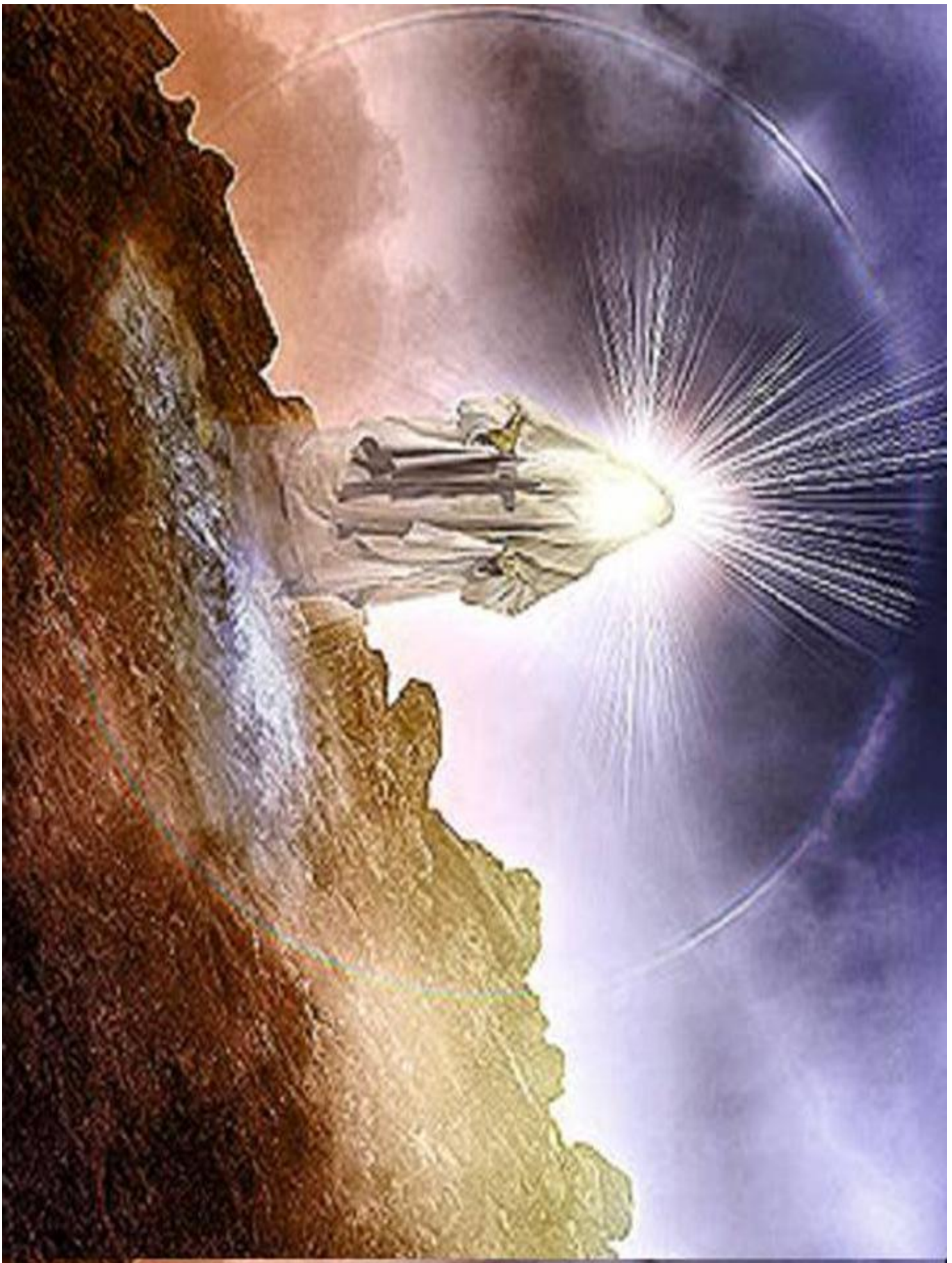
Being scattered among the nations

Wasted cities

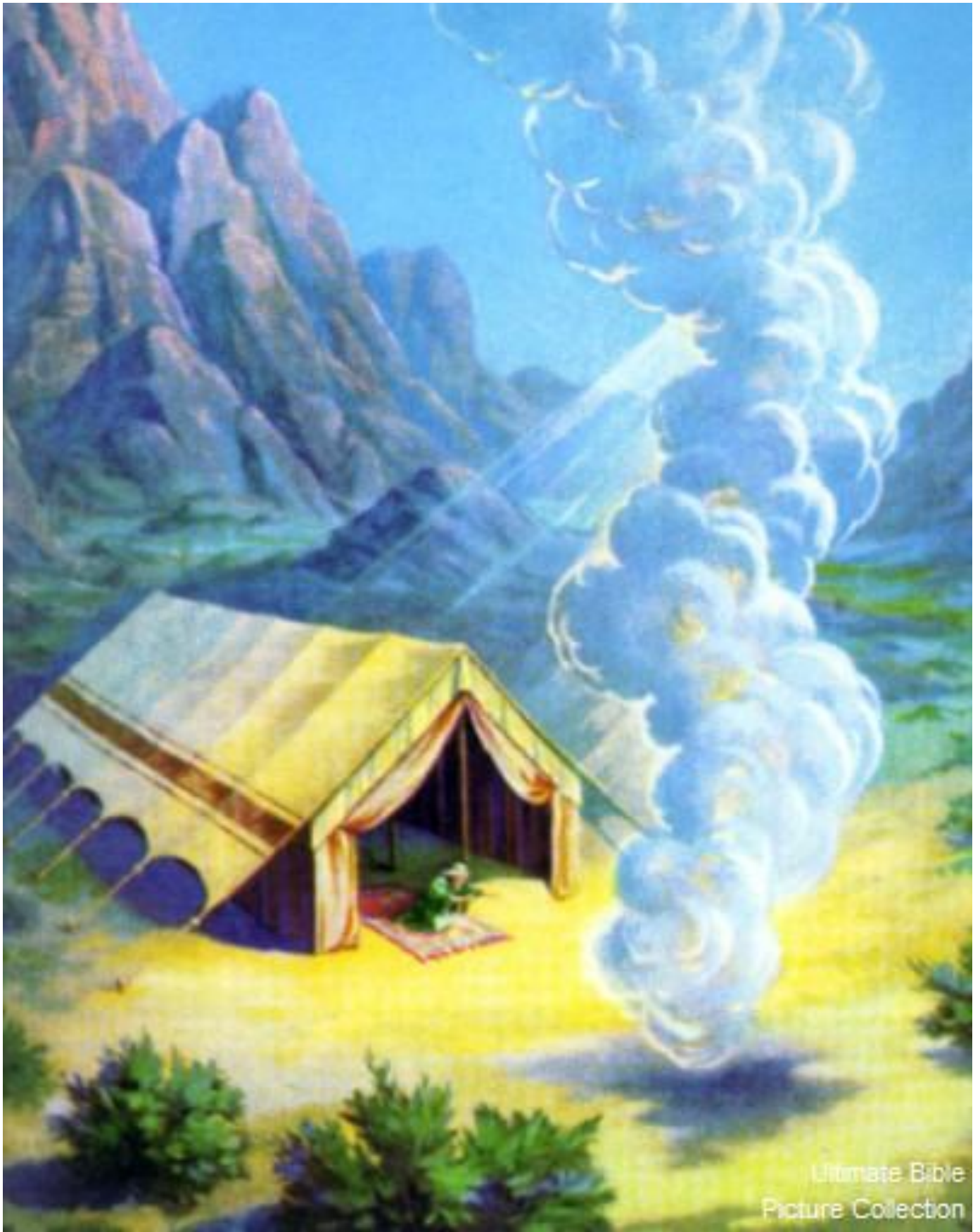




<http://elderberry.blogspot.com/2015/03/march-14-2015-god-on-mountain-top-of.html>



<http://hookedonthebook.com/teaching-children-about-bible-miracles-moses-shining-face/>



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