

Hello! This is Dorothy -

You know, the ancient priests of Israel believed that God (Deity) comes with the clouds of heaven. You know, that really dawned on me the other day as I was reading Scripture. It is an amazing thought that they always associated Him with the clouds of heaven. That is why the old rabbinical belief is that the Messiah was *the cloud man*. I never thought of this before. In **Daniel 7:13**, we read - **I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven . . .** So we think of Him as the cloud man. I want to speak about this cloud a little bit. The cloud of His presence was just as in the days of Elijah when God came and moved in the midst. Do we realize we can be clothed in the same glory with which Adam was clothed before he fell into sin? Sometimes we limit what God wants to do in our lives. We feel, “Well, I messed it up so much.” All the time we are thinking of a patch-up job, but we do not realize the glory of His presence. We don’t understand what it means if He wants to literally visit and exchange His life for our life. In **Revelation 1:7**, we read - **Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so. Amen.** Here, the Lord Jesus Christ is the One who comes with the clouds.

In **Mark 14**, there was an interesting question from the high priest, when he turned to Jesus and said -

61 . . . Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?

62 And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.

Now this caused a violent reaction, for they knew the association of God's movement with clouds and this identification was more than they could bear! They were His enemy and they hated it. They knew that our Lord Jesus Christ was claiming (rightfully, of course) to be the Son of the Blessed, the One who would come in the cloud of glory, which had once filled the temple of Jerusalem. They knew that the clouds, upon which Messiah would come, were not those lovely, fleecy white little clouds you see on a summer's day. No, He was speaking of the blazing cloud which veiled the divine presence.

In **Psalms 104** we read -

1 Bless the Lord, O my soul, O Lord my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honor and majesty.

2 Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment: who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain:

3 Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the water . . . - and listen to this — . . .who maketh the clouds his chariot: who walked upon the wings of the wind:

4 Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire: -

think about the pillar of fire - very interesting -

5 Who laid the foundations of the earth, that it should not be removed for ever. And we read further on -

33 I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.

34 My meditation of him shall be sweet: I will be glad in the Lord.

And it goes on to say in **Psalm 68:34 - Ascribe ye strength unto God; his excellency is over Israel, and his strength is in the clouds.** *He is speaking of Jesus Christ.*

For in **Matthew 17**, we read of the time of the transfiguration of our Lord Jesus.

2 . . . his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.

3 And behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elijah talking with him.

5 . . . behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold, a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased . . . In this transfiguration episode, Jesus, the Son, with the cloud, speaks with his servants. How does He do this? From the midst of this radiance of glory.

Oh, I just get so excited when I suddenly realize that all the way through the Old Testament, it was Jesus! He was the One. That is why there is that looking for Him to come again and they will be looking for

Him to come in the clouds. As we have read, it will be known for that is exactly what He is declaring He is going to do when He comes to the earth. There will be those people who will know judgment at His Second Coming. (This is not the Rapture, when we will be taken up in the air, but to the earth.) To His own people, there will be the mourning to realize Who they have rejected.

You know, this blazing cloud at Mount Sinai, which was experienced by Moses, and the chariot of fire when Elijah was caught up in the whirlwind, make me think of **1 Corinthians 10:1-2** -

1 . . . I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;

2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea.

Israel was baptized unto Moses in the cloud of glory as they marched through the Red Sea. As Israel was baptized into the clouds, Pharoah and his Egyptian army were immersed, literally. They were not baptized in the clouds; they were immersed in the water and they died. Oh, may we understand the glory of God! May we understand the presence of God in His shelter as we receive Him today.

In Jesus' Name. Amen