



Clouds of Glory

ANANEI HAKAVOD

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Meaning of Sukkah

סִכָּה

H5521 sukkāh: A feminine singular noun meaning a booth, a thicket. This term is used for temporary shelters used to cover animals (Gen 33:17); warriors (2Sa 11:11); and the prophet Jonah (Jon 4:5). It is used poetically to refer to the clouds (Job 36:29; Psa 18:11 [12]).

סָכַךְ sākak, שָׁכַךְ śākak: I. A verb meaning to cover. It means to hide something or to shield something.

Sukkot

Lev 23:43-44 (TLV) so that your generations may know that **I had Bnei-Yisrael to dwell in sukkot** when I **brought them out of the land of Egypt.** I am Adonai your God.” 44 So Moses declared to Bnei-Yisrael the moadim of Adonai.



The Rabbis' Debate

In order that future generations **may know** that I made the Israelite people live in sukkot (Lev 23:43).

R. Eliezer says: “They were real sukkot.” R Akiba says: “They were the clouds of glory.” (Sifra 17:11)

The odd thing is:
the Torah never refers to the Israelites residing
in *sukkot* except in this passage.

This gives leverage to Rabbi Akiva's opinion.

**Rabbi Akiva said that
the Sukkot or
Tabernacles referred
to the “clouds of
glory.”**

Ananei HaKavod

Why?



When Does the Cloud First
Appear?

**Exo 12:36-37 (TLV) ...Then Bnei-Yisrael journeyed
from Rameses to Succoth...**

**Exodus 13:20-22 (TLV) So they journeyed from
Succoth and encamped in Etham, on the edge of the
wilderness. 21 Adonai went before them in a pillar
of cloud by day to lead the way and in a pillar of fire
by night to give them light. So they could travel both
day and night. 22 The pillar of cloud by day and the
pillar of fire by night never departed from the
people.**

God's Sukkah is the Clouds

God Dwells in the Thick Cloud

1 Ki 8:12-13 (NASB) Then Solomon said, "The LORD has said that **He would dwell in the thick cloud.** 13 I have surely built You a lofty house, a place for Your dwelling forever."

Ps. 97:2 (NASB) **Clouds and thick darkness surround Him;** righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne.

Psa 18:11-12 (TLV) He rode upon a cheruv and flew. He soared on the wings of the wind. 12 He made darkness His cover, **His sukkah** all around Him—dark waters, **thick clouds.**



H6051 אָנָן. ānān: A masculine singular noun meaning cloud. In the ancient world, clouds were often seen as the pedestal or shroud of the divine presence. God preceded the Israelites through the wilderness in a pillar of cloud (Exo 13:21-22); and the same cloud rested over the Tabernacle (Exo 33:10). The cloud was over Mount Sinai (Exo 19:9); and entered the Temple in Jerusalem (1Ki 8:10-11). Clouds are typical of the apocalyptic language of the Day of God (Eze 30:3; Joe 2:2; Zep 1:15). Other poetic uses of cloud describe God's shelter (Isa 4:5).

In ANE thought, gardens and mountains figure the Temple where God dwells. **They are heavenly and cloudy (or misty).**

Clouds obscure ones view, they “hide” what is just beyond them. In Hebraic thought, this is a good thing as the Cloud of Adonai shields us from the fullness of His Light and Glory, which is for our protection in this realm.

**To be in the Cloud of
Adonai is be in His
Shade or Shadow.**

**In this sense, He is
our Provider,
Protector, Savior,
and Shield.**



Col. 2:16-17 (LITV) Then do not let anyone judge you in eating, or in drinking, or in part of a feast, or of a new moon, or of sabbaths, 17 which are a **shadow** of coming things, but the body of Christ.

What is a Shadow?

Evidence of a Greater Reality

- When light hits an object or a person, their substance blocks the light and casts a shadow.
- The shadow is proof that something or someone is close or nearby.
- Light does not pass through the object or person, rather it shines on or illuminates them.
- Kingdom eating, drinking, festivals, new moons, and Sabbaths are a **SHADOW** of things to come.
- They are proof of a greater spiritual reality.



Psalms 91:1-2 (TLV) He who **dwells in the shelter of Elyon**, will abide in the **shadow of Shaddai**. 2 I will say of Adonai, “He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.

Psalms 36:7 (NASB) How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God! And the children of men take refuge in the **shadow of Your wings**.

Psalms 17:8 (NASB) Keep me as the apple of the eye; Hide me in the **shadow of Your wings**.

Clouds & Sukkot Give Shade

They must cast a Shadow

- The defining characteristic of the sukkah in rabbinic law states that its roof must produce SHADE, and yet the stars must also be visible at night.
- In the natural, shade provides protection from the blazing sun. Jonah was extremely happy in the shade that his sukkah and the plant provided, but was miserable when the gourd withered.
- Rashi observes, "It is called a sukkah on account of the shade, since it provides shelter (mesukakh) from the heat."

After Adonai has washed away the filth of the
Daughters of Zion...

5 then the LORD will create over the whole area of
Mount Zion and over her assemblies (miqrah) **a cloud**
(anon) by day, even smoke, and the brightness of a
flaming fire by night; for over all the glory will be a
canopy (chuppah). 6 **There will be a shelter**
(sukkah) to give shade from the heat by day, and
refuge and protection from the storm and the rain.

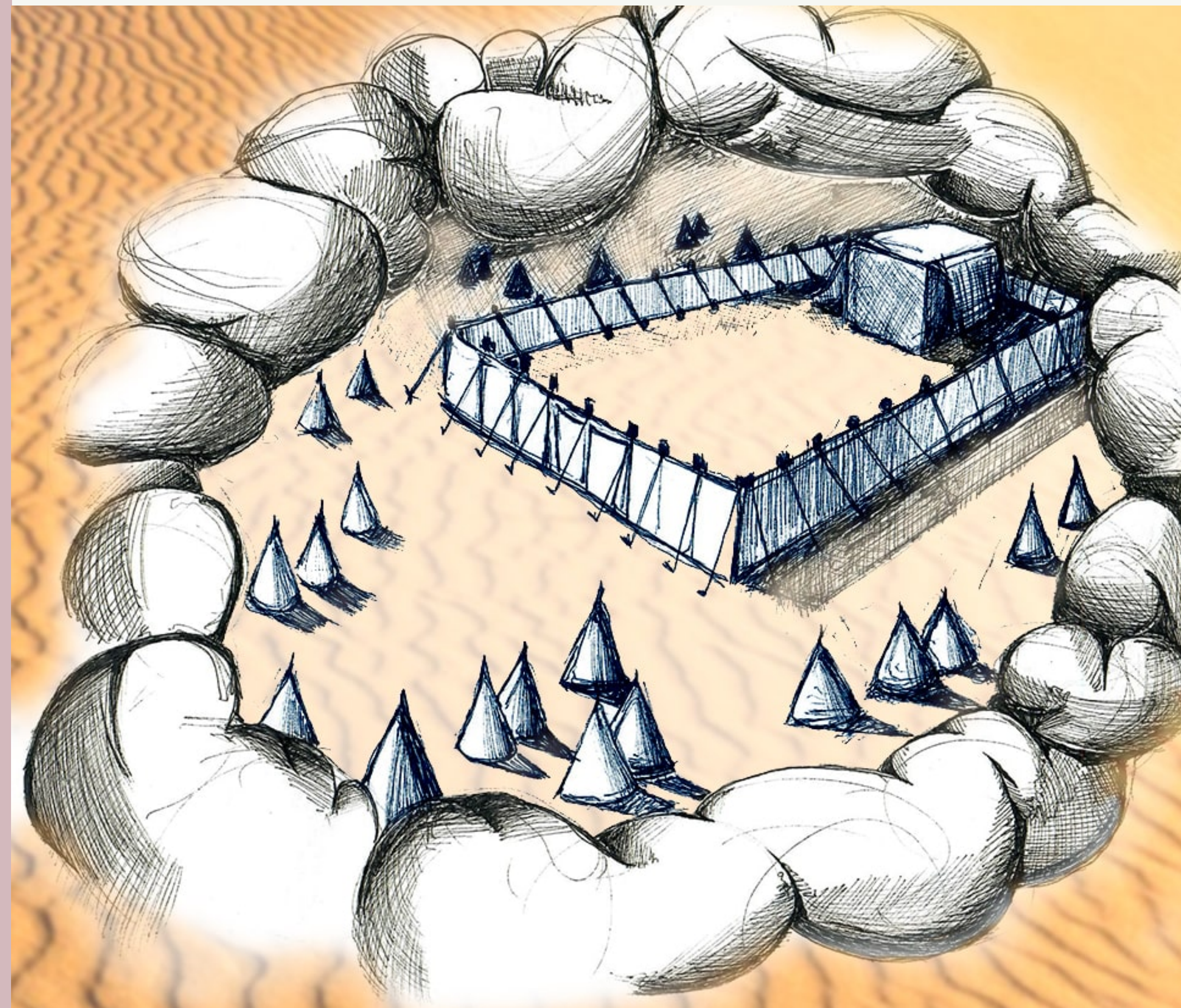
Is. 4:3-6 (NASB)

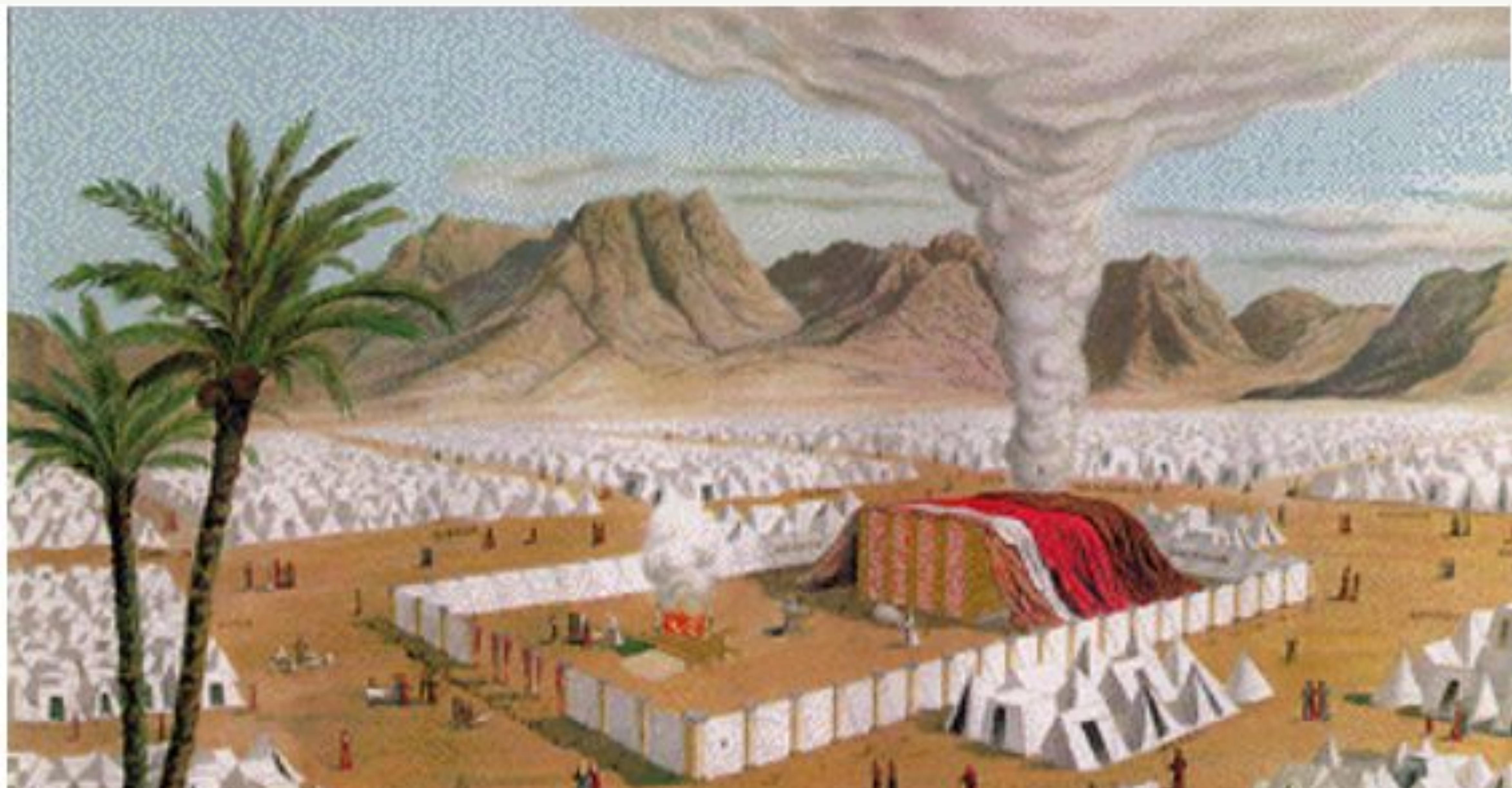
Revelation 7:15-17 (NASB) "For this reason, they are before the throne of God; and they serve Him day and night in His temple; and He who sits on the throne **will spread His tabernacle over them.** 16 They will hunger no longer, nor thirst anymore; **nor will the sun beat down on them, nor any heat;** 17 for the Lamb in the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of the water of life; and God will wipe every tear from their eyes."

Experiencing the shade of the sukkah is meant to remind one of the Divine Presence, God's heavenly (cloudy) protection, His love, and the intimacy of the Most Holy Place.

His desire is that each and every generation dwell in sukkot to remind them not only of His mighty works in the past, but of the availability of His sheltering Presence right now, in the present. These shadows point us to the future, instill hope, and build our faith that One Day we will experience them in their full reality.

**The rabbis view the
Ananei HaKavod as
a supernatural force
field surrounding
His People.**







Numbers 9:15

Now on the day that the tabernacle was raised up,
the cloud covered the tabernacle, the tent of the Testimony;
from evening until morning it was above the tabernacle
like the appearance of fire.

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More From the Sages:

God gave to [Abraham's] children **seven clouds of glory** in the desert, one to their right, and one to their left, one before them, and one after them, and one above their heads, and one as the shekhina that was in their midst. And **the pillar of cloud would precede them, killing snakes and scorpions, burning brush, thorns and bramble, reducing mounds and raising low places, and making a straight path for them, a continuous, ongoing highway**, as it is said, The ark of the covenant of the Lord traveled in front of them (Num 10:33). - **Tosefta Sotah 4:2**

Where Do These Ideas Come
From?

Deu 1:29-31 (NASB) "Then I said to you, 'Do not be shocked, nor fear them. 30 The LORD your God who goes before you will Himself fight on your behalf, just as He did for you in Egypt before your eyes, 31 and in the wilderness where you saw how **the LORD your God carried you, just as a man carries his son**, in all the way which you have walked until you came to this place.'

Psa 105:38-39 (NASB) Egypt was glad when they departed, For the dread of them had fallen upon them. 39 **He spread a cloud for a covering, And fire to illumine by night.**

In the Cloud

Natural Law is Suspended

Dt. 8:3-4 (NASB) He humbled you and let you be hungry, and fed you with manna which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that He might make you understand that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of the LORD. **4 Your clothing did not wear out on you, nor did your foot swell these forty years.**

Dt. 29:5 (NASB) I have led you forty years in the wilderness; **your clothes have not worn out on you, and your sandal has not worn out on your foot.**

Deu 32:9-11 (NASB) "For the LORD'S portion is His people;
Jacob is the allotment of His inheritance. 10 He found him
in a desert land, and in the howling waste of a wilderness; **He
encircled him, He cared for him, He guarded him as the
pupil of His eye. 11 Like an eagle that stirs up its nest,
that hovers over its young, He spread His wings and
caught them, He carried them on His pinions.**

Neh. 9:19-21 (NASB) You, in Your great compassion, did not forsake them in the wilderness; the pillar of cloud did not leave them by day, to guide them on their way, nor the pillar of fire by night, to light for them the way in which they were to go. 20 **You gave Your good Spirit to instruct them,** Your manna You did not withhold from their mouth, and You gave them water for their thirst. 21 **Indeed, forty years You provided for them in the wilderness and they were not in want; their clothes did not wear out, nor did their feet swell.**

They Followed the Cloud

Jer 2:2 (NASB) Go and proclaim in the ears of
Jerusalem, saying, 'Thus says the LORD, "I
remember concerning you the devotion of your
youth, the love of your betrothals, your following
after Me in the wilderness, through a land not sown."

Baptized in the Cloud & the Sea

1 Cor. 10:1-4 (NASB) For I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, **that our fathers were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea; 2 and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea; 3 and all ate the same spiritual food; 4 and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock was Christ.**

Is. 60:8 (NASB) Who are these who fly like a cloud and like the doves to their lattices?

Great Cloud of Witnesses

Hall of Faith

Heb. 12:1-2 (NASB) Therefore, since we have so **great a cloud of witnesses** surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.



What was will be Again:

After Adonai has washed away the filth of the
Daughters of Zion...

5 then the LORD will create over the whole area of
Mount Zion and over her assemblies (miqrah) a cloud
(anon) by day, even smoke, and the brightness of a
flaming fire by night; for over all the glory will be a
canopy (chuppah). 6 There will be a shelter (sukkah)
to give shade from the heat by day, and refuge and
protection from the storm and the rain.

Is. 4:3-6 (NASB)

The Transfiguration



Moses Enters the Cloud

Ex. 24:15-18 (NASB) Then Moses went up to the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. 16 **The glory of the LORD rested on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; and on the seventh day He called to Moses from the midst of the cloud.** 17 And to the eyes of the sons of Israel the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a **consuming fire** on the mountain top. 18 **Moses entered the midst of the cloud as he went up to the mountain;** and Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.



Luke 9:28-36 (NASB)


28 Some **eight days** after these sayings, He took along Peter and John and James, and went up on the **mountain** to pray.

29 And while He was praying, the **appearance of His face became different, and His clothing became white and gleaming.**

30 And behold, two men were talking with Him; and they were **Moses and Elijah,**

31 who, **appearing in glory,** were speaking of His **departure** (Gk: exodus) which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

32 Now Peter and his companions had been overcome with sleep; but **when they were fully awake, they saw His glory and the two men standing with Him.**



I was asleep but
my heart was
AWAKE

Song of Songs 5:2

33 And as these were leaving Him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three **tabernacles**: one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not realizing what he was saying.

34 While he was saying this, a **cloud formed** and began to **overshadow them**; and **they were afraid as they entered the cloud**.

35 Then a **voice came out of the cloud**, saying, "This is My Son, My Chosen One; listen to Him!"

36 And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent, and reported to no one in those days any of the things which they had seen.

- 8 days
- Mountain
- Shining face of Yeshua
Moses & Elijah (Torah
& the Prophets)

- Appearing in Glory
- Departure (Exodus)
- Tabernacles
- Bright Cloud
- Voice from the Cloud

**Behold: He is
Coming with the
Clouds!**



Yeshua Ascended to Heaven in a Cloud

Act 1:9-11 (NASB) And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. 10 And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. 11 They also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, **will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven.**"

He's Coming Back in the Clouds!

Matthew 24:30-31 (TLV) Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the land will mourn, and **they will see 'the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.** 31 He will send out His angels with a great shofar, and they will gather together His chosen from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.”

Revelation 1:7 (TLV) “Look, **He is coming with the clouds, and every eye shall see Him**, even those who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth shall mourn because of Him. Yes, amen!”

Join Them in the Clouds

1 Th 4:16-18 (NASB) For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 **Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air**, and so we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

