

## The Pillar

1

The Lord was going before them in a pillar of cloud by day to lead them on the way, and in a pillar of fire by night to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night. He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people.  
(Exodus 13:21–22)

2



Then the angel of God, who was going in front of the Israelite forces, moved and went behind them. The pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and stood behind them. It came between the Egyptian and Israelite forces. There was cloud and darkness, it lit up the night, and neither group came near the other all night long.  
(Exodus 14:19–20)

3

During the morning watch, the Lord looked down at the Egyptian forces from the pillar of fire and cloud, and threw the Egyptian forces into confusion.  
(Exodus 14:24)

4



So it came about on the third day, when it was morning, that there were thunder and lightning flashes and a thick cloud upon the mountain and a very loud trumpet sound, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled. And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain.  
(Exodus 19:16–17)

5

Now Mount Sinai was all in smoke because the Lord descended upon it in fire; and its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked violently. When the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke and God answered him with thunder. The Lord came down on Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain.  
(Exodus 19:18–20)

6





7



8



“I am going to send an angel before you to protect you on the way and bring you to the place I have prepared. Be attentive to him and listen to him. Do not defy him, because he will not forgive your acts of rebellion, for my name is in him. But if you will carefully obey him and do everything I say, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and a foe to your foes. For my angel will go before you and bring you to the land...

(Exodus 23:20–23)

9

Now Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, a good distance from the camp, and he called it the tent of meeting. And everyone who sought the Lord would go out to the tent of meeting which was outside the camp. And it came about, whenever Moses went out to the tent, that all the people would arise and stand, each at the entrance of his tent, and gaze after Moses until he entered the tent.

(Exodus 33:7–8)

10



Whenever Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent; and the Lord would speak with Moses. When all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would arise and worship, each at the entrance of his tent. Thus the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, just as a man speaks to his friend.  
(Exodus 33:9-11)

11

The Cloud Rider

12



“There is none like the God of Jeshurun,  
Who rides across the heavens to help you  
And on the clouds in his majesty.  
(Deuteronomy 33:26)

13

Sing to God! Sing praises to his name! Exalt  
the One who rides on the clouds! For the  
Lord (YHWH) is His name! Rejoice before Him!  
(Psalm 68:4)

14



# The Son of Man

15

I continued watching in the night visions,  
and suddenly one like a son of man  
was coming with the clouds of heaven.

He approached the Ancient of Days  
and was escorted before him.

He was given dominion  
and glory and a kingdom,  
so that those of every people,  
nation, and language  
should serve him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion  
that will not pass away,  
and his kingdom is one  
that will not be destroyed.

(Daniel 7:13–14)

16



## The Christian Vision of Jesus' Return

17

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. And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. 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."  
(Acts 1:9–12)

18



## Jesus Describes His Return

19

“Immediately after the distress of those days, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not shed its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the peoples of the earth will mourn; and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. He will send out his angels with a loud trumpet, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.  
(Matt 24:29–31)

20



Look, He is coming with the clouds,  
and every eye will see Him,  
even those who pierced Him.  
And all the tribes of the earth,  
will mourn over him.  
So it is to be. Amen.  
(Revelation 1:7)

21

“Then I will pour out a spirit, of grace and prayer on the house of David and the residents of Jerusalem, and they will look at me whom they pierced. They will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child and weep bitterly for him as one weeps for a firstborn. On that day the mourning in Jerusalem will be as great as the mourning of Hadad-rimmon in the plain of Megiddo. The land will mourn, every family by itself: the family of David’s house by itself and their women by themselves; the family of Nathan’s, house by itself and their women by themselves; the family of Levi’s house by itself and their women by themselves...  
(Zechariah 12:10–14)

22



“But in those days, after that tribulation: The sun will be darkened, and the moon will not shed its light; the stars will be falling from the sky, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. He will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.  
(Mark 13:24–27)

23

“Then there will be signs in the sun, moon, and stars; and there will be anguish on the earth among nations bewildered by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and expectation of the things that are coming on the world, because the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. But when these things begin to take place, stand up and lift your heads, because your redemption is near.”  
(Luke 21:25–28)

24