

## THE GLORY REALM

The glory of God has been of great interest to me since 1980, when I took my family to Calvary Pentecostal Tabernacle Campground in Ashland, Virginia, USA. They conducted ten weeks of revival meetings every year where hundreds came from all over the world to participate. The back to back meetings started after breakfast and ran all day till near midnight. One of the speakers was Ruth Ward Heflin, the sister of Wallace Heflin Jr who was the convener of the yearly ten week revival. Sister Ruth the pastor of Mount Zion Fellowship in Jerusalem was a missionary of note who had traveled to about 300 nations. It seemed to me that she was an expert on the “Glory”. I had not learned that much about the glory in Bible School and so I set about to learn as much as possible in every meeting. In those weeks I heard the word “glory” spoken numerous times every day. Even Edith Heflin, Ruth’s mother who taught the children every morning would often say, “I feel the glory.” I had heard many preachers say, “I feel the anointing” or “I feel His presence”, but to say you felt the glory aroused even more interest and awareness on the importance of real Glory and its effects in revival meetings. Glory was a vast subject that led to many other pathways of inspiration, revelation, visions, prophecy, new song, healing, and all kinds of miracles.

Then in December (1980) on my way back from China I went to the Philippines. It was there whilst doing missionary work that I personally experienced God’s glory. There were times I actually saw God moving so powerfully in services that I knew it was “glory” related; there was no other explanation. I saw cloud like fog during worship, people rolling on floors as if turbo-charged by an unexplained power. Some people at times seemed to be in a trance, others felt the burning of fire as demons were expelled, others experienced miraculous healing to blind eyes, deaf ears, and the dumb spoke and so on. If there was a way for God to get my full attention, this “glory pathway” would do it. How would I share these things at home in Australia? Would anyone believe one word of what I had just experienced the remote villages in the Philippines. As the years went by I saw other remarkable things (that were only shared with close ministry friends) the appearance of oil on people’s hands, gold dust on faces. Then there were the light orbs in many meetings. These glory encounters (often photographed) I later realized were angelic visitations in meetings. I noted that the greater hunger for God the greater the glory. I will mention more about hunger for God later. Let’s move on and do some background on the “Glory”.

## **HISTORY:**

The Hebrew word for Glory in the Old Testament is “kabod” or kavod (K-V-D) or KVOD.

It means "importance", "**weight**", "deference", or "heaviness", but primarily **kavod** means "**glory**", "respect", "honor", and "majesty"; figuratively, that which is "weighty". The Septuagint translates the Hebrew kabod with the Greek word doxa, which in simple terms means to give a proper reference to the characteristics of someone or something. When I speak of God's glory I usually refer to God's beauty, power and grandeur of God's domain (the Father's house). Of course when referring to God's creation of the natural heavens, words such as brilliance, radiance, vastness and infinity come to mind. Of course there would be a lot more if I had the use of a large telescope. I think it is reasonable to say that “Glory” is inclusive of anything of excellence relating to heaven. David writes that "the heavens are speaking of the glory (Hebrew = kabod, Greek = doxa) of God”. Like the Psalmist when we look heavenward at night we see God's declaration in His handiwork.

**Psa 19:1** The heavens declare **the glory of God**; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

We understand then that the glory of the LORD has eternally existed, for heavenly things are external. People are so busy in western life it is unusual for most to turn their eyes skyward to capture the wonder of the creation of God. Many associate the starry heavens as the Glory of God. When I was at school I learned about Galileo who in 1610 scanned the heavens with his new telescope. The world of astronomy took a leap forward as new stars and galaxies were viewed for the first time.

Saturn, had rings. Jupiter had moons. The nebulous patch across the center of the sky called the Milky Way was not a cloud but a collection of countless stars.

Today's astronomers, professional and amateurs alike have the added advantages of sophisticated telescopic instruments with powerful computers that pull the sun, moon, planets and stars with the thousands of galaxies and nebulae into what seems to be an arm's length away.

Now we have added advantages of facilities like the **Spitzer Space Telescope** (SST), formerly the Space Infrared Telescope Facility (SIRTF). This infrared Space Telescope, was launched in 2003 and is still operating as of 2019. It takes pictures of infrared light which greatly enhances what viewers see on earth. It is the fourth and final of the NASA

Wikipedia

**Launch date:** 25 August 2003, 5:35 am

**Orbit height:** 568 km

**Max speed:** 1,707 km/h

**Cost:** 720 million USD

**Manufacturers:** Lockheed Martin, Ball Aerospace & Technologies

From the dawn of humankind to a mere 400 years ago, all that we knew about our universe came through observations with the naked eye. Then Galileo turned his telescope toward the heavens in 1610. The world was in for an awakening.

Saturn, we learned, had rings. Jupiter had moons. That nebulous patch across the center of the sky called the Milky Way was not a cloud but a collection of countless stars. Within but a few years, our view of the stars would be forever changed. NASA has helped in this giant step forward in sending the Hubble telescope into the atmosphere to gather even more information of the glory of God.

Generally speaking, Earth's atmosphere changes and blocks some of the light that comes from space. Before the Spitzer Space Telescope program came into effect, the Hubble telescope was launched. **Hubble** orbits high above Earth and its atmosphere. Hubble can see space better than **telescopes** here on Earth for **Hubble** uses radio waves to send the pictures through the air back to Earth.



The Hubble Space Telescope is named in honor of astronomer Edwin Hubble.

In the centuries that followed, telescopes grew in size and complexity and, of course, greater power. They were placed far from city lights and as far above the haze of the atmosphere as possible. Edwin Hubble, for whom the Hubble Telescope is named, used the largest telescope of his day in the 1920s at the Mt. Wilson Observatory near Pasadena, Calif., to discover galaxies beyond our own.

The Hubble Space Telescope is a huge telescope launched into space by NASA in 1990. Hubble is as long as a large school bus. It weighs as much as two adult elephants. Hubble travels around Earth at about 5 miles per second. That is as fast as driving a car from the East Coast of the United States to the West Coast in 10 minutes.

Hubble faces toward space. It takes pictures of planets, stars and galaxies. Hubble has the capacity to see stars being born. Hubble has seen stars die. It can see galaxies that are trillions of miles away. Hubble also has seen fragments of a comet crash into the gases above Jupiter. Scientists have learned a lot about space from Hubble's pictures. The

astounding pictures of space draw the viewer into a new world. One wonders what we shall see from heaven.

### Hubble is different from other **Telescopes on Earth?**

The mixture of gases that surround a planet is called its atmosphere. Earth's atmosphere changes and blocks some of the light that comes from space. Hubble orbits high above Earth and its atmosphere. So, Hubble can see space better than the telescopes on Earth. Hubble is not a telescope you look through with your eye. Hubble uses a digital camera. It takes pictures like a cell phone. Then Hubble uses radio waves to send the pictures through the air back to Earth.

### **Where Did the Name Hubble Come From?**

Hubble is named after Edwin P. Hubble. He was an astronomer. An astronomer is a scientist who studies the planets, stars and space. Edwin P. Hubble made important discoveries about the universe in the early 1900s. (See photo on previous page).

### **What Is NASA Learning From the Hubble Space Telescope?**

Hubble has helped scientists learn about our solar system. The telescope observes comets and planets. Hubble even discovered moons around Pluto that had not been seen before. The telescope has helped scientists understand how planets and galaxies form. Galaxies contain billions of stars. A picture called "Hubble Ultra Deep Field" shows some of the farthest galaxies ever seen. Pictures from Hubble help scientists learn more about the whole universe. Because of Hubble pictures, scientists think the universe is almost 14 billion years old.

Hubble has spotted black holes. Black holes suck in everything around them. They even suck in light. And Hubble has helped scientists learn more about explosions that happen when huge stars burn out.

The **Hubble Space Telescope (HST)** is a space telescope that was launched into low Earth orbit in 1990 and remains in operation. Although not the first space telescope, Hubble is one of the largest and most versatile and is well known as both a vital research tool and a public relations boon for astronomy. The HST is named after the astronomer Edwin Hubble and is one of NASA's Great Observatories, along with the Compton Gamma Ray Observatory, the Chandra X-ray Observatory, and the Spitzer Space Telescope.

With a 2.4-meter (7.9 ft) mirror, Hubble's four main instruments observe in the near ultraviolet, visible, and near infrared spectra. Hubble's orbit outside the distortion of

Earth's atmosphere allows it to take extremely high-resolution images, with substantially lower background light than ground-based telescopes. Hubble has recorded some of the most detailed visible light images ever, allowing a deep view into space and time. Many Hubble observations have led to breakthroughs in astrophysics, such as accurately determining the rate of expansion of the universe.

The HST was built by the United States space agency NASA, with contributions from the European Space Agency. The Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI) selects Hubble's targets and processes the resulting data, while the Goddard Space Flight Center controls the spacecraft.

Space telescopes were proposed as early as 1923. Hubble was funded in the 1970s, with a proposed launch in 1983, but the project was beset by technical delays, budget problems, and the *Challenger* disaster (1986). When finally launched in 1990, Hubble's main mirror was found to have been ground incorrectly, compromising the telescope's capabilities. The optics were corrected in 1993 to their intended quality by a servicing mission.

Hubble is the only telescope designed to be serviced in space by astronauts. After launch by Space Shuttle *Discovery* in 1990, five subsequent Space Shuttle missions repaired, upgraded, and replaced systems on the telescope, including all five of the main instruments. The fifth mission was initially canceled on safety grounds following the Columbia disaster (2003). However, after spirited public discussion, NASA administrator Mike Griffin approved the fifth servicing mission, completed in 2009. The telescope is operating as of 2018, and could last until 2030–2040. Its scientific successor, the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST), is scheduled for launch in March 2021.

In 2009, astronauts flew to Hubble on the space shuttle. This was the fifth time astronauts went to Hubble. They went for the purpose of maintenance putting new parts and cameras in the telescope. Hubble will not be fixed again. In 2015, Hubble turned 25 years old. It still takes beautiful pictures of objects in space.

NASA is building another space telescope. It is called the James Webb Space Telescope. It will be bigger than Hubble. Webb will not orbit Earth as Hubble does. Webb will orbit the sun in a spot on the other side of the moon. The Webb telescope will be able to see a different kind of light than the light Hubble sees. Webb will help NASA see even more of the universe.

Hubble has an unobstructed view of the universe far above earth's air pollution. Scientists have used Hubble to observe the most distant stars and galaxies as well as the planets in our solar system.

Hubble's launch and deployment in April 1990 marked the most significant advance in astronomy since Galileo's telescope. Thanks to five servicing missions and more than 25

years of operation, our view of the universe and our place within it has never been the same.

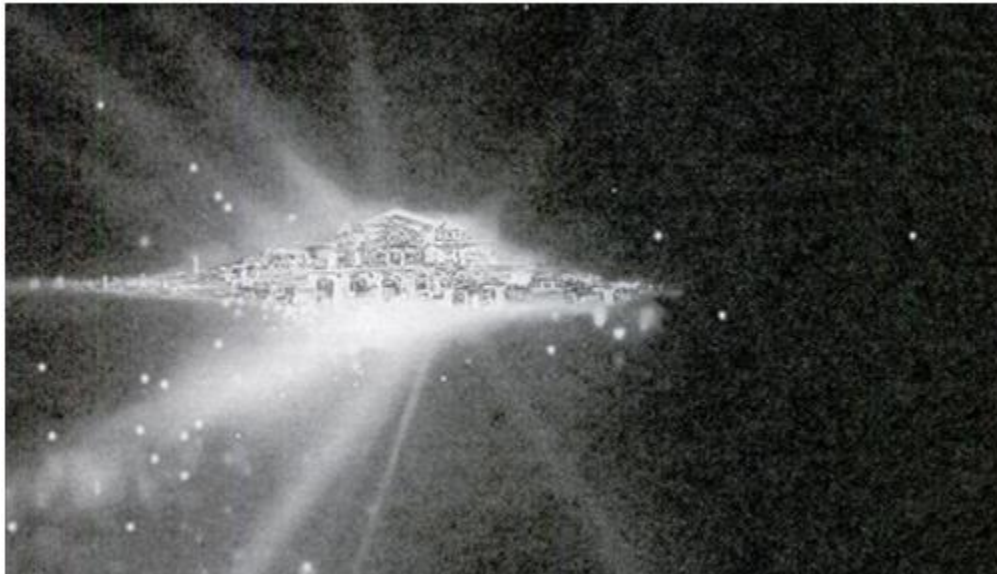
## HEAVEN PHOTOGRAPHED BY HUBBLE TELESCOPE



In 1994, a researcher smuggled one top-secret photo the Hubble Space Telescope had



taken of what is presumed to be Heaven. Weekly World News was the first to print the image and report on Dr. Masson's findings, but despite the media coverage, NASA refused to acknowledge the existence of the photo taken by Hubble and yet scientists are still looking to find evidence of life beyond earth. I think they have already found it. <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/cele...sas-hubble-vasko-nikolov-6076884986600968192/>



Look at the mega size city with what looks like a large temple on the top of the structure.

By **RON KINTON**  
Weekly World News

**WASHINGTON — NASA scientists are studying hundreds of amazing images sent to Earth by the Hubble Space Telescope — and will soon announce the pictures are the first-ever photographs of Heaven!**

That's the word from author and researcher Marcia Masson, who quoted highly placed NASA insiders as having said that the telescope beamed the photos back to the command center at Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md., on March 26.

The pictures clearly show a vast white city floating eerily in the blackness of space.

And the expert quoted NASA sources as saying that

the city is definitely Heaven "because life as we know it couldn't possibly exist in icy, airless space.

"This is it — this is the proof we've been waiting for," Dr. Masson told reporters.

"Through an enormous stroke of luck, NASA aimed the Hubble Telescope at precisely the right place at precisely the right time to capture these images on film. I'm not particularly religious, but I don't doubt that somebody or something influenced the decision to aim the tele-



Dr. Masson

scope at that particular area of space.

"Was that someone or something God Himself? Given the vastness of the universe, and all the places NASA could have targeted for study, that would certainly appear to be the case."

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They also confirmed that President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore have taken a keen personal interest in the

WASHINGTON, DC – Despite new repairs to the Hubble Telescope, NASA refused to release any of the old photos or take new ones of what was discovered of Heaven. In 1994, a researcher was smuggled one top-secret photo the Hubble Space Telescope had taken of what is presumed to be Heaven. Weekly World News was the first to print the image and report on Dr. Masson's findings. Despite the media coverage, NASA refused to acknowledge the existence of the photo. Now that the Hubble has been repaired and NASA is officially releasing some of its new findings, the Weekly World News editorial team believes it is NASA's responsibility to further investigate this space anomaly! NASA has yet to respond, but take a look below for our exclusive report on the first photo.

February 8, 1994. Just days after space shuttle astronauts repaired the Hubble Space Telescope in mid-December, the giant lens was focused on a star cluster at the edge of the universe. Hubble was able to beam back hundreds of photographs of what looked like heaven!

The unusual statement made by author and researcher Marcia Masson, quoted highly placed NASA insiders who said that the telescope beamed hundreds of photos back to the command center at Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md., on December 26. The pictures clearly show a vast white city floating eerily in the blackness of space. And the expert quoted NASA sources as saying that the city is definitely Heaven "because life as we know it couldn't possibly exist in icy, airless space. "This is it – this is the proof we've been waiting for," Dr. Masson told reporters. "Through an enormous stroke of luck, NASA aimed the Hubble Telescope at precisely the right place at precisely the right time to capture these images on film. I'm not particularly religious, but I don't doubt that somebody or something influenced the decision to aim the telescope at that particular area of space. "Was that someone or something God himself? Given the vastness of the universe, and all the places NASA could have targeted for study, that would certainly appear to be the case."

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They also confirmed that President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore have taken a keen personal interest in the photographs and have requested daily briefings. Dr. Masson said: "The Hubble Space Telescope was designed to photograph images as far away as the edge of the universe but a lens flaw prevented it from doing so until shuttle astronauts



corrected the defect during a recent mission. When they finished their work, the telescope trained its enormous glass eye on the outer reaches of the universe. From what I understand, the first images it received were nothing more than kaleidoscopic bursts of color and light. As adjustments were made and the focus sharpened, NASA analysts couldn't believe their eyes. After checking and rechecking the data, they concluded that the images were authentic. They also theorized that the city couldn't possibly be inhabited by life as we know it. The only logical explanation was that the city was inhabited by the souls of the dead." As one of my sources put it, "We found where God lives."

It has been rumored that the space agency has forwarded photographs to Pope John Paul II at his request, but Vatican sources will neither confirm nor deny it. Dr. Masson, who obtained copies of a single photograph from her NASA sources, says the space agency's next move "will be most revealing." "This is a chance for NASA to come clean with the public and tell us everything it knows," she said.



**Hubble Teams With Google to Bring the Cosmos Down to Earth.**

This new, free, downloadable browser is produced by Google, the company that hosts the popular Internet search engine, through a partnership with the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore, the science operations center for Hubble.

The program is modeled after Google Earth, which allows you to tour our planet. With Sky in Google Earth, you can travel across the night sky, making stops at all the popular Hubble images. Though these celestial objects are far away from Earth, you can reach them in a few seconds with "Sky in Google Earth."

"You have seen the Hubble images of objects such as the Eagle Nebula, the so-called pillars of creation," said Carol Christian, an astronomer at the Space Telescope Science Institute and one of the developers of the Sky in Google Earth project. "With Sky in Google Earth you can see where the objects are located in space, including the constellations in which they reside. Then you can discover other cool objects in nearby regions of the sky. And you don't have to know anything about astronomy to use the program."



**Image above:** Screen capture of the Orion constellation border and numerous astronomical objects located in the direction of that constellation. Image credit: NASA, ESA, Digitized Sky Survey Consortium, and the STScI-Google Partnership.

Orion was mentioned many times in the Bible. Imagine what Job would have said if he had viewed this on a laptop!

Travelers can begin their celestial tour by selecting an object, such as the Eagle Nebula, or even a category, such as colliding galaxies, from a menu. You will first get a backyard view of the sky showing the constellations surrounding your

selected object. As you zoom in, the constellations disappear and your chosen object emerges from the background. The image is set within a background of real stars and galaxies taken by two powerful visible-light surveys of the heavens, the Digitized Sky Survey and the Sloan Digital Sky Survey. The Digitized Sky Survey comprises photographic surveys of nearly the entire sky and contains about a million objects. The Sloan survey comprises images of hundreds of millions of much fainter objects and covers more than a quarter of the sky.

Most people think in terms of twelve constellations that relate to their particular star sign. However, there are no less than eighty seven constellations that can be reasonably mapped and put into shapes of animals, birds, fish, reptiles, mighty hunters and so on. Men have pleased themselves in the study of the stars and the movement and alignment of planets and comets for thousands of years.

Christians noted recently the alignment of many planets which gave us the fulfilled prophecies of the book of Revelation when Blood Moons began to appear much more frequently. On **April 15, 2014**, there was a total lunar eclipse which was the first of four consecutive total eclipses in a series, known as a tetrad; a second one took place on October 8, 2014, the third one on April 4, 2015, and the remaining one took place on **September 27, 2015**. It is interesting to note that many of these **Blood Moons** coincided with various Jewish Holy days. I think God is trying to get our attention. More recently the longest total Lunar Eclipse of the Century occurred on **July 27, 2018**. Recently NASA turned the Hubble telescope just to the side of true north where they found what they thought was God's heaven. It was as John the Revelator had seen in vision; a city foursquare.

**Psa 33:6 By the word of the LORD were the heavens made;** and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

As this dissertation proceeds I want to give an overview of some of the manifestations of the glory of God through biblical history inclusive of scriptural referencing. My reference to God's glory will not concentrate on the expanse of God's heaven and its celestial bodies, for my knowledge of it is limited. Oh course these days people speak of the many galaxies I will seek to give reference (with scriptures) to the effects of His glory throughout history. Because of the vastness of the subject "GLORY", it will be necessary to give personal evaluation or experience as I unfold some of the examples of God's "glory" presence.

If "glory" is God related, then "glory" visitation is God related. Let's look at some the visitations of the Glory of God.

Before I get started on the subject of Glory, I want to insert a quotation from Arnold Fruchtenbaum who wrote the **Footsteps of Messiah**.

**Fruchtenbaum** wrote...

The Shechinah Glory is the **visible manifestation** of the **presence of God**. It is the majestic presence or manifestation of God in which He descends to dwell among men. Whenever the invisible God becomes visible, and whenever the omnipresence of God is localized, this is the Shechinah Glory. The usual title found in Scriptures for the Shechinah Glory is the glory of Jehovah, or the glory of the Lord. The Hebrew form is *Kvod Adonai*, which means “the glory of Jehovah” and describes what the Shechinah Glory is. The Greek title, *Doxa Kurion*, is translated as “the glory of the Lord.” *Doxa* means “brightness,” “brilliance,” or “splendor,” and it depicts how the Shechinah Glory appears. Other titles give it the sense of “dwelling,” which portrays what the Shechinah Glory does. The Hebrew word *Shechinah*, from the root *shachan*, means “to dwell.” The Greek word *skeinei*, which is similar in sound as the Hebrew *Shechinah* (Greek has no “sh” sound), means “to tabernacle”. In the Old Testament most of these visible manifestations took the form of light, fire, or cloud, or a combination of these. A new form appears in the New Testament: the Incarnate Word. (The Footsteps of the Messiah – Study of the Sequence of Prophetic Events) Quoted in part from Page 409.

### OLD TESTAMENT MANIFESTATIONS OF THE SHEKINAH GLORY:

**Gen 3:23** Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.

Gen 3:24 So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden **Cherubims, and a flaming sword** which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

So we see that the LORD God sent (Adam) out from the Garden of Eden, to cultivate the ground from which he had been created. Then God drove Adam out; and at the east of the garden of Eden God placed (Hebrew “**shachan**”. This a Word related to the Shekinah) the cherubim, and **the flaming sword** which turned every direction, to guard the way to the tree of life. (Gen 3:23-24)

I see a very personal aspect to the “Shekhinah” glory that guarded the tree of life. The presence of the “The Flaming Sword” (Gen 3:24) is definitely “The Word”. In relation to man it is possibly the first manifestation of the protection of the Shekinah glory of the Lord. Cherubim and their accompaniment of God’s Glory have become of increasing interest to me over the past years and for good reason; they are sighted by prophets like Ezekial (chapter one) where the appearance of the Shekinah Glory is seen associated with the Cherubim and their activities.

Other possible sightings of the Shekinah glory appear in Genesis 15 when God put His name to the Abrahamic Covenant.

**Gen 15:17** And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, **behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp** that passed between those pieces.

Gen 15:18 **In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram**, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:

The Hebrew for “burning lamp” is “LAMP OF FIRE”. Fire is often associated with Shekinah Glory. This passage of scripture (Gen 15:7) indicates a possible visitation of the Shekinah Glory or one of the many angelic visitations experienced by Abram.

On the very day the LORD appeared in the “Lamp of Fire” He made a covenant with Abram. “To your descendants I have given this land”. (Gen 15:18)

Some say that God signed the unconditional Abrahamic Covenant in the Shekinah Glory.

(Exo 3:2-3; Deu 4:20; Jdg 6:21, Jdg 13:20; 1Ch 21:26; Isa 62:1; Jer 11:4)

Most Christians would interpret that the Shekinah glory in the New Testament may be the presence or indwelling of the Holy Spirit in the believer. I am of the opinion that only those who have had an experience of the baptism of the Holy Spirit may draw personal parallels to the encounters of glory given in the Old Testament. Those encounters usually had an accompaniment of fire as it was on the day of Pentecost. (Acts 2:1-4) In Judaic culture there was a much great reverence of the awesome Shekinah. Only once a year did the specially sanctified Levite priests make entrance beyond the separating curtain into the smaller Holy of Holies where the Ark of the Covenant resided. The Levites were the only ones allowed beyond the inner court. The glory of the Shekinah (the light from heaven) shone around the Ark. Many today want to by-pass the power aspect of the Holy Spirit. This was not the case in the Temple of Solomon. The power of the Shekinah had the power to kill as evidenced by those who presumed to approach it without making proper preparations. Other scholars have stated that the Ark of the Covenant seemed to possess an electrical current with the power of lightning. In Old Testament times the much valued Ark of the Covenant that resided in the inner chamber of the Holy of Holies seemed to be the location of the awesome presence of God. In this current age most Christians are taught that the presence of God is the Holy Spirit abiding in the believer. Others believe that a greater presence of the Holy Spirit comes when they are baptized in the Holy Spirit. (Acts 19:2-6) When discussing this I usually remind people that the nine gifts of the Holy Spirit were given at the time of the infilling of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 19:6)

Act 19:6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, **the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.**

Where references are found in the Old Testament of the manifestations of the (Shekinah) glory of God inclusive of His Holy presence, Christians can find numerous references to the same Glory in the New Testament. These occurrences are literal as the Word of God is absolute in truth. I sight Luke 2:9 which refers to the "glory of the Lord" shining on the shepherds after Jesus' birth). This would have been like the light that shined about



Saul on the road to Damascus. (Act 9:3). Later during one his missionary journeys Paul gave testimony to the power of that glory experience. (Act 22:6)

**Act 22:6** And it came to pass, that, as I made my journey, and was come nigh unto Damascus about noon, **suddenly there shone from heaven a great light** round about me.

Act 22:7 And **I fell unto the ground**, and heard a voice.

**Luk 2:9** And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and **the glory of the Lord shone round about them**: and they were sore afraid.

In (John17:22), it appears that Jesus is speaking of a “glory anointing” that He imparted to the disciples. During his prayer Jesus seemed to be reassuring Himself that he had done all that was required in His short ministry in giving His "glory" to his disciples.

**Joh 17:22** And **the glory which thou gavest me I have given them**; that they may be one, even as we are one:

There is evidence to suggest that “glory” is linked to the prophetic content in the Word of God. Example: "For no prophecy ever came by the will of man: but men spake from God, being moved by the Holy Spirit." The KJV says in **2Pe 1:21** For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but **holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost**.

Glory anointing can be a very personal aspect of our ministry. I believe that today Prophecy should have “river glory” as part of its makeup; the greater the glory the greater the prophetic river. When teaching people about prophecy my mind goes back to my childhood when I watched my grandmother mixing the ingredients of a cake. “It needs a little more butter”!

Many times with prophecy, it needs a little more River Glory.

## SPIRITUAL ANOINTING

God’s eternal Word has certain built-in characteristics that have the ability to change every person no matter what tribe, color or culture. He is the God of “equal opportunity”. These days there are those who concern themselves with equal rights and opportunities. Any person who commits himself to the Christ in a personal committed relationship receives the same equal rights as a son of God and the same Spiritual opportunity. Spiritual transformation was granted to the great men and women of the Bible. (Act 9:1-22) This opportunity to receive God’s mandate, is given to all God’s children. However, spiritual increase and anointing are conditional. The child of God must be obedient to the Word of God. God will not reverse His promise. (Num 23:19)

Num 23:19 **God is not a man, that he should lie;** neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and **shall he not make it good?**

God doesn't lie and he always makes good on promises. God has given the commandment to bless, and so as anointed servants we become vessels of blessing that never run dry. (Num 23:20; Psa 1:3)

Num 23:20 Behold, **I have received commandment to bless: and he hath blessed;** and I cannot reverse it.

God wants to live His mandate through us. We become a blessing because the anointed Word within is the blessing. (Gen 12:2) God told Abram to go and be a blessing.

His anointing in us is the blessing that is pouring forth. (Deut 32:2)

When we have grown in the anointing, then we can help others to ascend into God's glory realm. Moses was able to minister the Word in such glory that his speech (which was not that good) dropped upon the congregation like golden rain from heaven. Those who listened felt the soaking shower of God's glory.

Deu 32:2 **My doctrine shall drop as the rain,** my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass:

Those who don't believe that they can be used of God need to read more of Word of God and see what God can do.

Let's see how big God really is and believe it!

**ISA 40:12 Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span,** and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and **weighed the mountains in scales,** and the hills in a balance?

**COL 1:16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth,** visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: **all things were created by him,** and for him: 17And he is before all things, and **by him all things consist.**

The same Christ (Word) that created the universe has the power to perform creative miracles. Let us refresh ourselves with the Cana miracle, where Jesus turned water into wine. (Jn 2:1-11) By faith, He by-passed the natural processes involved in proper wine making to produce the best wine. This glory creative factor of the living Word never changes giving the believer opportunities to apprehend greater levels of faith as they engage in ministry.

Often men of God are not seen as serious contenders for the faith until they have performed a mighty miracle. Notice what the widow of Zarephath says when her son is raised from the dead.

**1 KIN 17:24** And the woman said to Elijah, **Now by this I know that thou *art* a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in thy mouth is truth.**

She had already seen a great miracle with the barrel of meal and the cruse of oil. This first miracle was done when a life threatening famine was in the land. When her son actually died and Elijah raised her from the dead she suddenly realized that Elijah's word had creative power. Some ministers overstate their ability, but Elijah spoke prophetic truth. Anointed Prophetic voice contains some of the greatest Word creativity known to man.

Jesus Christ, who lived in the glory realm prophesied miracles without sounding like a Prophet. (Luke 5:4) "Launch out into the deep"

**LUK 5:5** And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: **nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.** <sup>6</sup>And when they had this done, **they inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake.**

**Read:** 2Kin 4:1-7; 13:14-19; 1Sam 10:5-11; Luk 4:31-44

## GLORY WORSHIP

David covers the aspect of praise and prophetic worship very simply. He did it wholeheartedly. We see in Psalms 147:15 that prophetic worship runs swiftly. This prophetic flowing of the Word from heaven will carry us with it. We will be carried to His chambers, (S of Song 1:4) and sing at the mountain of the Lord. (Isa 30:29)

**PSA 147:15** He sendeth forth his commandment *upon* earth: **his word runneth very swiftly.**

**S of Songs 1:4** Draw me, **we will run after thee:** the king hath brought me into his chambers: we will be glad and rejoice in thee, **we will remember thy love more than wine:** the upright love thee.

Here we see the invitation to come into the king's chambers. It is as if the revelations are running ahead and we are doing our best to catch up. There is a lot more to this than physical allegory.

**S of Songs 8:14** Make haste, my beloved, and **be thou like to a roe** or to a young hart **upon the mountains of spices.**

He could hardly wait to show to show the Shulamite the next thing. This is what it is like for God, He wants to show us the vastness of His glory. There is so much more glory to access in worship.

**ISA 30:29** Ye shall have a song, as in the night *when* a holy solemnity is kept; and gladness of heart, as when one goeth with a pipe to come into the mountain of the LORD, to the mighty One of Israel.

I believe that the NEW SONG is prophetic in origin. I have experienced that the prophetic new song is a pathway into the Glory realm.

(Isa 30:19a) **You shall have a new song.**

(Isa 30:19b) Isaiah saw himself carrying a pipe to the mountain of God. He was taking his musical instrument with him. He anticipated a song from the Lord. If we go back to (Isa 4:5) it seems as if Isaiah is anticipating the appearance of the Shekinah glory cloud and the shining of the flaming fire in the assembly. The Hebrew for “defence” is “covering”. (Isa 4:5)

**ISA 4:5** And the LORD will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory *shall be* a defence.

**ISA 49:13** Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for the LORD hath comforted his people.

**Singing in the Spirit links heaven and earth.** Praise and worship will comfort and edify the afflicted. His glory fire is a defense and covering. (Isa 4:5)

**1 SAM 2:1** And Hannah prayed, and said, **My heart rejoiceth** in the LORD, **mine horn is exalted** in the LORD: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because **I rejoice** in thy salvation. **2 There is none holy as the LORD:** for *there is* none beside thee: neither *is there* any rock like our God.

Hanna’s prayer became a prophetic song. It reached down from heaven right into her spirit. Hanna prophesied herself into great blessing. She went from a defeated housewife into a prophetess of the Lord.

She inherited the throne of God’s glory. (1 Sam 2:8) I am convinced that Hanna’s prophetic ministry was instrumental in Samuel’s later Prophetic ministry.

**1 SAM 2:8** He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and **to make them inherit the throne of glory:** for the pillars of the earth are the LORD’S, and he hath set the world upon them.

At this point I draw your attention to the fact that Hanna vowed to give her son Samuel to the work of the ministry even before he was born. Her sacrificial offering made the way for a great anointing.

Bring our substance as gifts to the lord. (Psa 76:11)

**Psa 76:11** Vow, and your God: let all that be round about him **bring presents unto him** that ought to be feared.

**PSA 96:8** Give unto the **LORD** the glory *due unto* his name: **bring an offering**, and come into his courts. 9 O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth.

**Read:** Psa 99:5; 45:11; Rev 14:7; 19:1-5; 10

## PROPHETIC GLORY

The prophetic ministry has been and should continue to be the cutting edge method whereby God can speak challenge, give direction, encouragement and healing to mankind. The higher the Glory, the higher the Prophecy. Why? For Glory has more of heaven in it.

**AMOS 3:7** Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.

**2 CHR 20:20**...Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; **believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.**

The above two scriptures have been instrumental in challenging many ministers to become anointed prophetic ministers. God wants to reveal His secrets.

The prophets of old were known to have a message of revelation. Prophetic ministry should bring fresh revelation. I have found in more recent times that Pentecostal church leaders are not making way for prophecy as if it is no longer necessary. We must remember that the Word of God is 1/3 prophetic in origin. **When we make way for the prophetic gifts of the Holy Spirit, we put ourselves on a pathway to the Glory of God.**

**JER 22:29** O earth, earth, earth, hear the word of the LORD.

**PSA 68:33** To him that rideth upon the heavens of heavens, *which were* of old; lo, **he doth send out his voice, and that a mighty voice.**

God is always speaking. There will be many voices singing His praise in heaven. It will be like many waters as multitudes worship God. The Apostle John had no problem hearing His mighty voice. All God's children need to yield and obey His mighty voice.

**REV 19:1** And after these **things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven**, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God:

**REV 19:6** And **I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters**, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, **Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.**



The glory in heaven creates an atmosphere for vocalisation. It seems as if thousands are singing at the same time. It is like a mighty river in flood. The voices sound like ongoing thunder.

Now let us see what happens when prophecy is used effectively. Notice that Ezekial did not pray over the dry bones. He prophesied in obedience to God.

**EZE 37:4** Again he said unto me, **Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD.**

**EZE 37:7** So **I prophesied as I was commanded**: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and **the bones came together, bone to his bone.**

Ezekial was carried out (transported) in the spirit. Whilst in this higher glory realm he was commanded by God to prophesy to dry “bones”. Each time he prophesied he stepped higher to the next level of prophecy. Ezekial shows us that there are many levels of faith in prophecy. His prophetic voice sounded out such faith that breadth came into the dry bones.

**EZE 37:10** So **I prophesied** as he commanded me, and the **breath came into them**, and **they lived**, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army.

In 1980 I met some missionaries who were constantly talking about the Glory. I noticed that just speaking of God’s Glory made way for a “spirit of revival”. I discovered that when I accessed the glory realm I could be an instrument in the revival process.

**JOEL 2:28** And it shall come to pass afterward, *that* I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and **your sons and your daughters shall prophesy**, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

With the advent of the Holy Spirit (Act 1:8; 2:1-18) the New Testament church was given a much broader availability to prophetic ministry. Prophetic voice was made available to spirit-filled church members on a regularly basis. We don’t need to be Prophets to prophesy the Word of the Lord. However, we do need to edify the church and prophecy is a simple method approved by God.

**ACT 19:6** And when Paul had laid *his* hands upon them, **the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.**

**1 COR 14:39** Wherefore, brethren, **covet to prophesy**, and forbid not to speak with tongues.

**Read also: Zech 7:7; Act 21:10-11; Act 21:8-9;**

Spirit-filled believers must initiate the gift of prophecy. Many times believers feel they don’t have anything of the spirit worth speaking. But those who have prepared

themselves in prayer and fasting are always ready to initiate prophecy. Once prophecy is activated, the River of the Holy Spirit takes over as flowing prophetic voice.

## GLORY PATHWAYS

**ISA 55:9** For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are **my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.**

I believe that God is seeking to lift His people to higher ground. The pathways of glory have their origins in heaven, they are spiritually higher than most believers comprehend. Some would think in terms of the effort required to hike mountainous trails to reach a summit. However, the pathway to ascent to a platform of Glory is simply locking out every distraction of the natural for it is our spirit that ascends leaving our troublesome body behind. Once we touch that realm we will want to do it again and again.

At 80 years of age Moses responded to a new dimension of the glory of God. It was a turning point in his life. (Ex 3:1-7) On the road to Damascus Saul encountered the light and power of the glory of God. Instantly Saul was blind and slain to the ground. The light of God's glory was so powerful he was physically disabled. (Act 26:13) He consequently recognized the power and authority of Jesus Christ.

**EX 3:2** And the angel of **the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush:** and he looked, and, behold, **the bush burned with fire**, and the bush *was* not consumed.

**ACT 26:13** At midday, O king, I saw in the way a light from heaven, above the brightness of the sun, shining round about me and them which journeyed with me. 14 And when we were all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice speaking unto me,

**EX 24:16** And the glory of the LORD abode upon mount Sinai,.... 17 And the sight of the glory of the LORD was like devouring fire on the top of the mount in the eyes of the children of Israel.

The Hebrew language gives the greater meaning to glory. Through the Old Testament the word Glory was described as the Shekhinah.

The Shekhina(h) (Biblical Hebrew: שכינה šekīnah; Some spelling changes by the Romans included Shekina(h), Schechina(h), Shechina(h)

Before I get to the next section I feel the need to reiterate the English transition over centuries to interpret the true Hebrew meaning of the "Shekinah Glory". The Hebrew meaning is simply that of "dwelling" or "settling" of the divine presence of God.

## THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD

It would be wonderful if Christians read the Old Testament as much as the New Testament. In doing so they might better equate and understand the full impact of the Shekinah in the **Old Testament**.

### **Hebrew Bible (Judaism)**

In Exodus 33:19, Moses is told that no human being can see the glory. Hebrew word for Glory is: כָּבוֹד kavod) of Yahweh and survive.

And the Lord said to Moses, "This very thing that you have spoken I will do, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." Moses said, "Please show me your glory." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The Lord.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy." But, he said, "you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live." And the Lord said, "Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, and while my glory passes by I will put you 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 my face shall not be seen."

The prophet Ezekiel writes in his vision:

And upward from what had the appearance of his waist I saw as it were gleaming metal, like the appearance of fire enclosed all around. And downward from what had the appearance of his waist I saw as it were the appearance of fire, and there was brightness around him. Like the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud on the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness all around.

Such was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord. And when I saw it, I fell on my face, and I heard the voice of one speaking.

### **New Testament**

In the New Testament, the corresponding word is the Greek: δόξα, *doxa*, sometimes also translated "brightness". For example, at the nativity of Christ:

In the countryside close by there were shepherds out in the fields keeping guard over their sheep during the watches of the night. An angel of the Lord stood over them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Look, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people.'

In the event known as the Transfiguration of Jesus, Moses and Elijah appeared in glory with Jesus, and the disciples who witnessed this revelation, Peter, James and John, 'saw his glory'.

### **My Personal Experience**

As a teenager I began to discover during my evening prayer the awesome presence of the Spirit of the Lord. It was like a heavy blanket that descended every night. I had no idea of

what was happening; for my friends were not having this experience. I realize now it was “the settling of His divine presence”. It was the “weight” of the “Shekinah”. The more time I spent with God the more I felt the weight of His presence.

To experience the proper weight (Anointing) of this glory the author of Hebrews left us a secret formula.

**Heb 12:1** Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, **let us lay aside every weight**, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*, and **let us run** with patience **the race that is set before us**,

When drawing parallels to the presence of God in Solomon's Temple, one must consider the fact that only once a year was entrance made into the smaller room where the Ark of the Covenant resided. Only the Levitical priesthood sanctified by God was allowed beyond the dividing curtain from the inner court. The glory of the Shekinah shone as bright as it does in heaven around the small Ark like box that contained the emblems of the miracles of old. The power of the Shekinah has been likened to an electrical current like lightning which was evidenced by those spiritually unprepared to approach the Ark of the Covenant. These presumptuous men died. In Old Testament times the Temple's Holy of Holies seemed to be the location of the continuing presence of God. In this current age most Christians are taught that the presence of God is the Holy Spirit abiding in the believer. Others believe that a greater presence of the Holy Spirit comes when they are baptized in the Holy Spirit. (Acts 19:2-6) We see that the gifts of the Holy Spirit were given at the time of the infilling of the Holy Spirit.

Act 19:6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, **the Holy Ghost came on them**; and they **spake with tongues, and prophesied**.

Where references are made to the Shekinah as manifestations of the glory of the Lord inclusive of His Holy presence, Christians can find numerous references in the New Testament. These occurrences are literal as the word of God is absolute in truth.

(Luk 2:9 refers to the "glory of the Lord" shining on the shepherds at Jesus' birth). This would have been like the light that shined about Saul on the road to Damascus. (Act 9:3)

**Luk 2:9** And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and **the glory of the Lord shone round about them**: and they were sore afraid.

In John Ch. 17 it appears that Jesus is speaking of glory anointing in (John 17:22), where Jesus speaks to God of giving the "glory" that God gave to him to his disciples.

**Joh 17:22** And **the glory which thou gavest me I have given them**; that they may be one, even as we are one:

In accord with Judaism, the Shekinah is linked to prophecy in Christianity: "For no prophecy ever came by the will of man: but men spake from God, being moved by the Holy Spirit." (2 Pet 1:22)

**2Pe 1:21** For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but **holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.**

In past decades there have been many doctrinal issues that have led to divisions. These divisions have many times given birth to new movements. Some have been very necessary to keep the characteristics of the power of Pentecost alive for benefit of future generations. So we see that these days there are many interpretations from many schools of thought of what the Glory is and how it is manifested. There is a lot crammed into (1Pet 1:21). Prophecy was not something additional; it came by (Holy Men) under the (weight of Glory) the Holy Spirit anointing of God.

I believe that the day is fast approaching when God will reveal His glory to the whole earth. The nation of Israel (the apple of God's eye) will not only be blessed in the natural (Isa 61:9; 65:17-24) but spiritually as well. A residue of Jewish people will spiritually inherit what the Bible states as His "diadem of beauty". (Isa 28:5) Although separate from the church and the gentiles the Jewish people will experience the excellence of His glory when Christ returns to earth the second time. (Isa 65:23)

**ISA 28:5** In that day shall the LORD of hosts be for **a crown of glory**, and for **a diadem of beauty**, unto the residue of his people,

**ISA 35:2** ....they shall see **the glory of the LORD**, and the excellency of our God.

## GLORY VISITATION

Isaiah did not receive a call to the ministry until he experienced the Glory Realm. Isaiah first saw the Glory of God after his friend King Uzziah died. Possibly this unexpected tragic event rekindled his spiritual life whereby Isaiah decided to spend more time in the presence of the Lord. This resulted in an amazing vision of God's throne. He saw the glory of God that filled heaven. (Isa 6:1) He heard the angelic seraphim giving voice to the holiness of God. (Isa 6:3)

**ISA 6:1** In the year that king Uzziah died **I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple....**<sup>3</sup> And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, *is* the LORD of hosts: **the whole earth is full of his glory.**

The angelic beings see more of God's glory than we do because they live under the canopy of that heavenly realm. They also see that the earth is filled with the glory of God. In (Isa 6:3) I note that the Seraphim repeat over and over "Holy, holy, holy". They are preoccupied with the holiness of the Shekinah glory of God. Secondly, they notice that the whole earth is filled with God's glory. We may not see it in the environment we find ourselves; church, the shopping center, at home. However, I believe that the Word of God



true. God's Glory is in the whole earth.

**PSA 24:7** Lift up your heads, O ye gates; **and be ye lift up**, ye everlasting doors; **and the King of glory shall come in.** **8 Who is this King of glory?** The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle. **9** Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift *them* up, ye everlasting doors; **and the King of glory shall come in.**

**10 Who is this King of glory?** The LORD of hosts, he *is* the King of glory. Selah.

Some want the glory like a possession without a relationship to the King of Glory. Pastors often desire numbers of people to come into the gates (doors) of the local church. God sees from His throne with miracle vision. God is looking for whole nations to be saved. David desired the whole nation see the "King of glory". God was the nation's deliverer in battle. God desires nations to be so lifted up that they won't even taste the rigors of battle. The multitudes need to recognize the King of glory. The psalmist asked the question twice. "Who is the King of glory?" The answer is in (v.10) "the Lord of hosts." God is desirous that multitudes experience His glory. (Psa 2:7-9)

The day will come when churches in full revival will be forced to keep the doors of the sanctuary open.

**REV 21:25** And **the gates of it shall not be shut at all** by day: for there shall be no night there.

The Apostle John's vision of the gates: Rev 21:12-13, 15, 21, 25

**ISA 60:1** Arise, shine; for **thy light is come**, and **the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.** **2** For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and **his glory shall be seen upon thee.**

Christ will be our inner glory and this beacon of spiritual light shall be seen of all men.

**LUK 2:32** A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

**ISA 60:19** The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: **but the LORD shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory.**

**ISA 62:3** **Thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God.**

The Old Testament prophets often heard the voice of God coming from His glory. (Ex 3:4-6, 12; Isa 6:1,8; Rev 21:3, 5-8)

It was their walk with God that gave them the ability to enter into the heavenly realm by visions of His Glory, but once having experienced the Glory they were ushered even higher.

Some were taken to the inner court (Eze 43:4)

Others saw the heavens open (Act 7:55; Rev 21:

**EZE 3:12** Then **the spirit took me up**, and **I heard behind me a voice** of a great rushing, *saying*, Blessed *be* the glory of the LORD from his place.

**REV 1:10** **I was in the Spirit** on the Lord's day, and **heard behind me a great voice**, as of a trumpet,  
Notice that when Ezekial and John were in the spirit that they then heard the voice of God.

**EZE 3:23** Then I arose, and went forth into the plain: and, behold, **the glory of the LORD stood there, as the glory which I saw by the river of Chebar**: and I fell on my face.

**ISA 43:4** And **the glory of the LORD came into the house** by the way of the gate whose prospect *is* toward the east. 5 **So the spirit took me up, and brought me into the inner court**; and, behold, **the glory of the LORD filled the house**.

We see in (Eze 3:23 & Isa 43:5) that they both recognised the Glory of the Lord due to past experiences of the glory. (Eze 1:1-14; Isa 6:1-6). It was not a once in a lifetime spiritual experience.

**REV 15:8** And **the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God**, and from his power;

**ACT 7:55** But he, **being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven**, and **saw the glory of God**, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, 56 And said, Behold, **I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing** on the right hand of God.

Stephen was known to be a man with heavenly characteristics:

He was full of the Holy Spirit.

He could use his spiritual and visionary gifts, even during persecution.

He related with great courage what he saw of heaven regardless of the circumstances.

Ministry preparation is achieved by actively seeking God with a lifestyle of prayer with fasting. This will enhance ministers to enter into His glory realm. The glory realm is the visionary realm. Added to the other gifts of the Holy Spirit ministers will soon realize it is a cutting edge glory box for ministry effectiveness.

**REV 21:1** And **I saw a new heaven and a new earth**: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. 2 And **I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven**, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Many in the church has become so earth bound, that temptation is ever before them. We have often prayed the Lord's Prayer. It is the same prayer that Christ prayed in Matthew Ch.6. Jesus continually looked to the heavenly realm which is above temptation. Christ carefully chose His words as He prayed.

**MAT 6:13** "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: **For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**"

During the Lord's Prayer (Mat ch.6) Christ makes mention of three things at the end of verse 13.

1. The kingdom.
2. The power.
3. The glory.

These will be ongoing throughout eternity.

In the past there has been so much preaching about the kingdom of God and so little about His glory. If we access the glory we will preach in a higher dimension.

Glory conscious ministers will also encounter His power, for His glory and power are linked. His glory will lift the people of God to higher levels. (Psa 3:3)

**PSA 3:3** But thou, O LORD, *art* a shield for me; **my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.**

John saw the Glory of God lighten all of heaven. That's the power of the glory. No electricity needed in the New Jerusalem, for the power source is the eternal light of the Son of God.

**REV 21:23** And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: **for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.**

## ASCENDING INTO GLORY

**ISA 2:3** And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and **let us go up to the mountain of the LORD**, to the house of the God of Jacob; and **he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths**: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and **the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.**

**HAB 3:19** The LORD God *is* my strength, and **he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places.**

**S of Song 8:14** Make haste, my beloved, and **be thou like to a roe or to a young hart upon the mountains of spices.**

Daniel also believed in this ministry lifestyle of “spiritual ascent”. It was a journey of great courage that took him into the unknown. He was elevated into prominence by his relationship to God. This impeccable Prophet of God ascended higher than his peers into the glory realms of heaven. It all started when he purposed in his heart. (Dan 1:8)

**DAN 1:8** But **Daniel purposed in his heart** that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that **he might not defile himself.**

**KEY PHRASES:**

1. Daniel purposed in his heart.

2. He might not defile himself.

The Church has voiced that there are many areas lacking in the lives of Christian believers. An absence of absolute purposing for God could mean that our faith lacks the courage necessary to fulfill God's call in our life. God has given us the scriptures whereby we may glean Christian characteristics necessary to help us ascend. Daniel was not constantly asking himself if he was **“purposing with all of his heart”**.

Daniel had such a belief in the word of God that he decided on a course of action that would guarantee separation from those that would ultimately hold him back from serving God with “all his heart”. This course of action is what I describe as “WORD ACTION”. Daniel decided to put actions to the teachings of the Bible. The **“torah”** (first 5 books of the Old Testament) mentioned fasting, and so fasting was one thing Daniel could do to enhance his relationship to God. He felt that by eating the food offered by the King that he would defile himself. Many believers have defiled themselves with over-eating or surfeiting. These flesh-filled lifestyles have robbed them of the “riches of God”.

**The riches of God are the “Holy Spirit anointings”.**

Some would view Daniel's commitment as an impossible lifestyle. Daniel was absolute in his commitment. Saying “NO” to the foods that offended God was a short cut to spiritual enlightenment. Daniel's “personal cross” was willingly taken up daily. **When it comes to food most believers do not know how to say “NO”**. In fact as far as food is concerned, many Christians have never given themselves the opportunity to prove that the Bible is absolutely correct. However, Christians who live in western nations have an abundance of food and saying “NO” to food is not only a foreign practice, but fasting is viewed as an inconvenient restriction to modern lifestyles.

(Dan 8:3; 1Kin 19:7-8; Est 4:6; Jon 3:5-10); Luk 4:2

Many have mistakenly refused God's “principles of purpose”?

There would be less spiritual conflict if we learned to reject worldly lifestyles?

Jesus said "Ye are from beneath; **I am from above**: ye are of this world; I am not of this world." Jesus Christ always chose the higher pathway. The meaning of the “world” in the above scripture is the usual lifestyle of people who are non-Christians. “The world” and “this world” are mentioned many times in scripture. Worldly lifestyles should be viewed as unacceptable to all Christians. (Rom 12:2) It is not possible to ASCEND with the WEIGHT of the WORLD attached to us.

**1 JN 2:15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world.** If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that *is* in the world, **the lust of the flesh**, and the lust of the eyes, and **the pride of life**, is not of the Father, but **is of the world**.

The apostle John views “the lust of the flesh”, “the lust of the eyes” and “the pride of life” as not of the Father. If these lusts are not of God, they must be of the devil. The scripture is clear. God will not excuse reprobate Christians.

**ROM 12:2** And **be not conformed to this world**: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that **ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.**

Paul makes it so simple. “Be not conformed” to the “world.” Renewing of the mind is acceptable, even perfect. The will of God is that “perfect way” that is acceptable both to God and his children. It can’t be clearer. Friendship with the world is sin. The Christian’s life should not be compatible with the world. John says, **if we love the world, God’s love is not within us.**

Abram may have been 99 years old, but God had not finished His work of perfection in his faith. God wanted a walk of perfection before any Covenant was made with increased blessing.

**GEN 17:1** And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I *am* the Almighty God; **walk before me, and be thou perfect.** 2 And **I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.**

**PSA 24:3** **Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD?** or **who shall stand in his holy place?** 4 He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; **who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity,** nor sworn deceitfully. 5 **He shall receive the blessing from the LORD,** and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

There’s a big difference between natural blessing and **the blessing of the Lord.** Some allow themselves the luxury of vain things (things that are not important to God) which rob them of spiritual blessing.

Even the unbelievers are looking for men of excellence, those who are gifted wise councilors. This excellent is difficult to find. (Dan 1:3-5)

**Read:** Pro 22:1; 16:17; Mal 4:2; Jn 4:14; 6:27, 6:51-55; 1 Cor 1:30, 3:11; 10:3-4; 2 Pet 1:3; Rev 3:18; 5:10

## THE POWER OF GLORY

**2Ch 7:1** Now when Solomon had made an end of praying, the **fire came down from heaven,** and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; **and the glory of the LORD filled the house.**

2Ch 7:2 And **the priests could not enter** into the house of the LORD, **because the glory of the LORD had filled the LORD'S house.**

Can you imagine what would happen in your church next Sunday if the church leaders could not enter the church because of the glory of God had already filled the auditorium. There was so much fire from heaven that the pastor could not preach; he couldn’t find



adequate words. Maybe you are thinking, yes but this was the Shekhinah glory power of the Old Testament. This is not possible in this dispensation. I believe that it is possible when we prepare with proper worship.

**2Ch 5:13** It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD; and **when they lifted up their voice** with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of musick, **and praised the LORD**, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: that **then the house was filled with a cloud**, even the house of the LORD;

**2Ch 5:14** So that **the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud**: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of God.

Here we see again the reference to the CLOUD or GLORY of the LORD.

**Exo 40:34** Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and **the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle**.

Exo 40:35 And **Moses was not able to enter into the tent** of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

**1Ki 8:10** And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy place, that **the cloud filled the house of the LORD**,

1Ki 8:11 So that **the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud**: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of the LORD.

**Eze 10:3** Now the cherubims stood on the right side of the house, when the man went in; and **the cloud filled the inner court**.

Eze 10:4 Then **the glory of the LORD went up from the cherub**, and stood over the threshold of the house; and the house was filled with the cloud, and **the court was full of the brightness of the LORD'S glory**.

See also, (Eze 43:5; Eze 44:4; Isa 6:1-4)

**Act 4:31** And when they had prayed, **the place was shaken** where they were assembled together; **and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost**, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

**Act 2:2** And suddenly there came **a sound from heaven** as of a rushing mighty wind, and **it filled all the house where they were sitting**.

I believe that God can fill the house (the meeting places) with that sound from heaven. Once you have heard it you will never be satisfied with any other sound of the power of His glory.

We need to be like Moses.

Exo 33:18 And he said, I beseech thee, **shew me thy glory**.

## THE DEPARTURE OF GLORY FROM "SOLOMON'S" TEMPLE

**CONTEXT:** Ezekiel's description of the progressive departure of the Glory in Ezekiel 8-11 was recorded 14 months after Ezekiel was called by God to be a prophet to the Exiles in Babylon. He is carried in vision to Jerusalem where we find a progressive step-by-step departure of the Glory of the LORD.

### STEP 1

In **Ezekiel 8:3-4** we note that Ezekiel wrote of his experience of the Spirit...

He was brought by visions of God to Jerusalem, to the entrance of the north gate of the inner court, where the seat of the idol of jealousy, which provokes to jealousy, was located. (v.3) "And behold, the glory of the God of Israel was there, like the appearance which he had seen in the plain". (v.4)

Ezekiel 8 describes a series of four "abominations" involving God's Holy Temple, but as described in Eze 8:4 the Glory of the LORD is still present, probably in the Holy of holies for later (Eze 9:3) it departs from the Cherub.

### STEP 2

**Ezekiel 9:3** states

Then the **glory of the God** of Israel went up from the cherub on which it had been, to the threshold of the temple. And He called to the man clothed in linen at whose loins was the writing case."

There is an almost identical description in Ezekiel 10:4 which reads,

"Then the glory of the LORD went up from the cherub to the threshold of the temple, and the temple was filled with the cloud, and the court was filled with the brightness of the glory of the LORD."

### STEP 3

**Ezekiel 10:18-19** states

Then the **glory of the LORD** departed from the threshold of the temple and stood over the cherubim. When the cherubim departed, they lifted their wings and rose up from the earth in my sight with the wheels beside them; and they stood still at the entrance of the east gate of the LORD'S house. And the glory of the God of Israel hovered over them.

### STEP 4

After addressing Ezekiel's fear's that the remnant would be brought to a complete end with the prophetic promises of future restoration physically and spiritually.

**Ezekiel 11:22, 23** states

Then the cherubim lifted up their wings with the wheels beside them, and the glory of the God of Israel hovered over them. And the **glory of the LORD** went up from the midst of the city, and stood over the mountain which is east of the city.

This was the clearest of visions and implies that the glory of the LORD has departed from His dwelling place among man.

## THE SHEKINAH THE GLORY CLOUD OF THE LORD

- [Exodus 14:19,20, Isaiah 58:8, Isaiah 52:12 The Glory In The Rear](#)
- [John 1:14 The Glory Of Christ - Beheld](#)
- [Exodus 33:18 A View Of God's Glory](#)

In order to help understand the specific manifestations of God's glory it is important to understand the frequently used term, **Shekinah**.

**Shekinah** is a transliteration of a Hebrew word meaning “the one who dwells” or “that which dwells”. This specific word is not used in Scripture but the root word **shakan** (to dwell) and the related word **mishkan** (tabernacle) are both frequently used and both are associated with the presence of God (and His glory) dwelling with man. The meaning of the word **Shekinah** (the One Who dwells) reminds us that we did not seek to dwell with God but He with us and this truth should evoke continual thanksgiving in those who have been brought into covenant with Him under the shelter of His wings. And so in Exodus, we see that it was God Who first expressed His desire to dwell among men, instructing Moses to tell the people to construct a sanctuary for Me, that I may **dwell (shakan)** among them. According to all that I am going to show you, as the pattern of the **tabernacle (mishkan from shakan)** and the pattern of all its furniture, just so you shall construct it." ([Ex 25:8; 25:9](#))

Before proceeding let me reiterate what **Arnold Fruchtenbaum** said about the **Shechinah Glory** as...

The visible manifestation of the presence of God. It is the majestic presence or manifestation of God in which He descended to dwell among men. Whenever the invisible God becomes visible, and whenever the omnipresence of God is localized, this is the Shechinah Glory.

The usual title found in the Scriptures for the Shechinah Glory is: the glory of the Lord. The Hebrew form is **Kvod Adonai (word study)**, which means “the glory of the Lord,” and describes what the Shechinah Glory is. The Greek title, **Doxa Kurion (kurios)**, is also translated as “the glory of the Lord.” **Doxa (word study)** means “brightness,” “brilliance,” or “splendor” and it depicts how the Shechinah Glory appears.

Other titles give it the sense of “**dwelling**,” which portrays what the Shechinah Glory does. The Hebrew for Shechinah, from the root shachan, means “to dwell.” The Greek word skeinei (see study of related words ([skenos](#) and [skenoma](#))) means “to tabernacle,” and is derived from the Hebrew Shechinah.

**Shekinah** originally was used in the Jewish **Targums** (Aramaic translation of Hebrew Bible) and rabbinic literature whenever the Hebrew text would mention the presence of God in a way that implied certain human limitations. The Targum Onkelos for example paraphrases (Ex 25:8) this way:

And they shall make before me a sanctuary and I shall cause my **Shekinah** to dwell among them.

In summary, the term **Shekinah** as commonly used describes the visible manifestation of God's presence and glory usually in the form of a **cloud** as discussed below under **Past Glory**.

The picture of the Shekinah cloud of glory **dwelling** on the Temple has a parallel "fulfillment" in the New Testament (obviously written by Jews familiar with the Shekinah in the Old Testament)

John writes:

The **Word** became flesh, and **dwelt** (tabernacled) among us, and we beheld **His glory**, **glory** as of the (only) begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)

(Note Spurgeon's sermon on -- John 1:14 The Glory Of Christ - Beheld)

**Spurgeon Commenting on John 1:14** observes **believers have something (Someone) far better than the Shekinah Glory Cloud of Israel in the Old Testament**: In and around the tent (The OT Tabernacle) wherein the Lord dwelt in the center of the camp there was a manifestation of the presence of God.

A bright light which I have already mentioned, the **Shekinah**, is said to have shone over the **Mercy-Seat**; but the high priest only could see it, and he only saw it once in the year when he entered with blood within the veil. Outside, above the holy place, there was the manifest glory of the pillar of cloud by day and of fire by night. This sufficed to bear witness that God was there; but still, **cloud and fire** are but physical appearances, and cannot convey a true appearance of God, who is a spirit. God cannot be perceived by all our God given senses; and yet the fiery, cloudy pillar could appeal to the eyes only. The excellence of the **indwelling of God in Christ** is this — that there is in Him a **glory** as of the only begotten of the Father, the moral and spiritual **glory** of Godhead.

This is to be seen, but not with the eyes — this is to be perceived, but not by the carnal senses: this is seen, and heard, and known, by spiritual men, whose mental perceptions are keener than those of sight and hearing. (cf Mt 16:17, Mt 11:25-27, Jn 6:44)

In the Person of Christ there is a glory which is seen by walking by faith (2Cor 5:7). We now discern by the Spirit heavenly glory things not natural earthly things that were so important prior to being born again. (2Cor 4:18).

In OT times the **glory of God** in the sanctuary was seen only by the priest of the house of Aaron; the **glory of God** in the face of Christ is seen by all believers, who are all priests unto God.

That glory the priest beheld but once in the year; but we steadily behold that glory at all times, and are transformed by the sight (2Cor 3:18). The glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ (2Cor 4:6) is not a thing of outward appearance, to be beheld with the eyes, like the pillar of cloud and fire; but there is an abiding glory that gives rise to totally new character. Others will see that we are NEW creations in Christ.

**Christ** truly is the **Shekinah of God**...

It is the **radiance** (**apaugasma**) of His glory (**doxa**) (Hebrews 1:3)

**Paul** adds that...

It was the Father's good pleasure for all the fulness to  **dwell** in Christ (Col 1:19) and that in Christ all the fullness of the Godhead  **dwells** in bodily form (in Christ) (Col 2:9)

**Paul** writes that Christ is "the Lord of **glory**" (1Cor 2:8). This same **Shekinah glory** now rests (dwells) upon all those who are in Christ. Thus Paul records that God made known the riches of His **glory** upon vessels of mercy, which He prepared beforehand for **glory** (Ro 9:23)

Paul also prays for the **Ephesian** saints; "that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the **riches of the glory** of His inheritance in the saints" (Ep 1:18)

Paul reminds the Colossian saints that God willed to make known what is the riches of the **glory** of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ ("dwelling") in you, the **hope of glory**. (Col 1:27)

The presence of the **Holy Spirit** is also a representation of the **Shekinah** as when the Spirit descended and remained on Jesus (Jn 1:33) and at Pentecost the Holy Spirit came down with FIRE and rested on the 120 disciples. The Fire of God's Glory rested on each one of them" (Acts 2:3)

### OLD TESTAMENT MANIFESTATIONS OF THE SHEKINAH GLORY:

**Genesis 3** This instance is a possible manifestation of the Shekinah glory and would be the first recorded instance in Scripture...

Therefore the LORD God sent him (Adam) out from the garden of Eden, to cultivate the ground from which he was taken. 24 So He drove the man out; and at the east of the garden of Eden He stationed (Hebrew word is **shakan**. The word related to Shekinah) the cherubim, and the flaming sword which turned every direction, to guard the way to the tree of life. (Ge 3:23-24)

The word "the" is placed before "flaming sword" for a specific reason. This was no ordinary sword, it was a flaming sword. Most scholars say it is possible that this is the first manifestation of the Shekinah glory of the Lord. The Cherubim are usually associated with the Shekinah Glory.

## Genesis 15 - The Abrahamic Covenant

And it came about when the sun had set, that it was very dark, and behold, there appeared **a smoking oven and a flaming torch** which passed between these pieces. 18 On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I have given this land, From the river of Egypt as far as the great river, the river Euphrates (Ge 15:17,18)

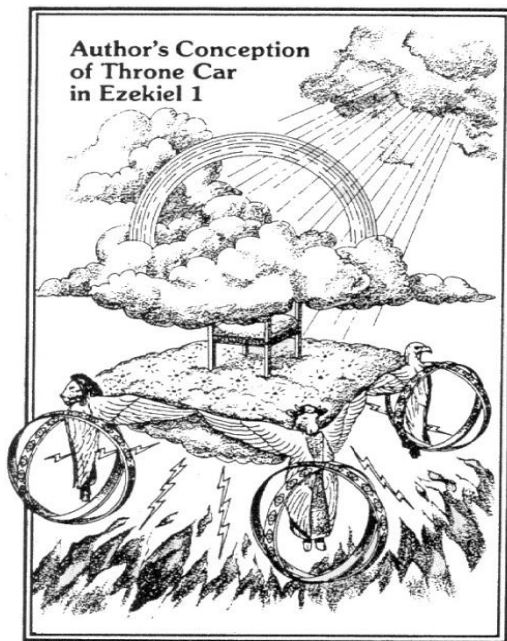
**Comment:** This example of the glory of God is another possible manifestation of the Shekinah Glory. It would certainly be fitting that the Shekinah Glory would be present at what amounts to Jehovah's "signing" of the unconditional Abrahamic Covenant.

## GOD IS ENTHRONED ABOVE THE CHERUBIM

The cherubim are mentioned in Genesis 3:24; Exo 25:17–22; 2 Chron 3:7–14; Ezek 10:12–14; 28:14–16; 1 Kings 6:23–28.

**They are positioned at the four corners of the throne.** (see diagram this page

The throne car or chariot has fire between the wheels. (See diagram from commentary)



(Sketch from W. MacDonald: *Believer's Bible Commentary*)

2Samuel 6:2 And David arose and went with all the people who were with him to Baale-judah, to bring up from there the ark of God which is called by the Name, the very name of the LORD of hosts **Who is enthroned above the cherubim.**

2Kings 19:15 And Hezekiah prayed before the LORD and said, "O LORD, the God of Israel, **Who art enthroned above the cherubim**, Thou art the God, Thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. Thou hast made heaven and earth.



1Chronicles 13:6 And David and all Israel went up to Baalah, that is, to Kiriath-jearim, which belongs to Judah, to bring up from there the ark of God, the LORD **Who is enthroned above the cherubim**, where His name is called.

Ps 80:1 (A Psalm of Asaph.) Oh, give ear, Shepherd of Israel, Thou who dost lead Joseph like a flock; Thou **Who art enthroned above the cherubim**, shine forth!

"Thou that dwellest between the cherubims, shine forth."

Ps 99:1 The LORD reigns, let the peoples tremble; **He is enthroned above the cherubim**, let the earth shake!

Ps 132:8 Arise, O LORD, to Thy resting place; Thou and the ark of Thy strength.

In this verse we find a prayer by the psalmist asking Jehovah to **descend** in the Shekinah (the glory cloud) and dwell (rest) above the Ark of the Covenant.

Let's look at Spurgeon's comment:

In these verses we see the finders of the ark removing it to its appointed place, using a formula somewhat like to that used by Moses when he said, "Rise up, Lord", and again, "Return, O Lord, unto the many thousands of Israel." The ark had been long upon the move, and no fit place had been found for it in Canaan, but now devout men have prepared a temple, and they sing, Arise, O Lord, into thy rest; thou, and the ark of thy strength. They hoped that now the covenant symbol had found a permanent abode -- a rest, and they trusted that Jehovah would now abide with it forever. Vain would it be for the ark to be settled if the Lord did not continue with it, and perpetually shine forth from between the cherubim. Unless the Lord shall rest with us there is no rest for us; unless the Ark of his strength abide with us we are ourselves without strength. The Ark of the Covenant is here mentioned by a name which it well deserved; for in its captivity it smote its captors, and broke their gods, and when it was brought back it guarded its own honour by the death of those who dared to treat it with disrespect. The power of God was thus connected with the sacred chest like box. Reverently, therefore, did Solomon pray concerning it as he besought the living God to consecrate the temple by his presence. It is the Lord and the covenant, or rather say the covenant Jehovah whose presence we desire in our assemblies, and this presence is the strength of his people. Oh that the Lord would indeed abide in all the churches, and cause his power to be revealed in Zion.

Isa 37:16 "O LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, **Who art enthroned above the cherubim**, Thou art the God, Thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. Thou hast made heaven and earth.

## CHERUBIM ACTIVITY

**Eze 10:6** And it came to pass, *that* when he had commanded the man clothed with linen, saying, **Take fire from between the wheels**, from between the cherubims; then he went in, and stood beside the wheels.

**Eze 10:7** And *one* cherub stretched forth his hand from between the cherubims unto the fire that *was* between the cherubims, and took *thereof*, and put *it* into the hands of *him that was* clothed with linen: who took *it*, and went out.

**Eze 10:15** And the cherubims were lifted up. This *is* the living creature that I saw by the river of Chebar.

Eze 10:16 And **when the cherubims went, the wheels went by them**: and when the cherubims lifted up their wings to mount up from the earth, **the same wheels also turned not from beside them**.

Eze 10:17 When they stood, *these* stood; and when they were lifted up, *these* lifted up themselves *also*: **for the spirit of the living creature was in them**.

The Shekinah glory shone above the mercy seat between the cherubim, whose wings were spread out over it. The presence of GOD was so real that not even the trusted priests were permitted to enter the sacred zone. The High Priest, once a year was allowed entrance, carrying a golden basin filled with atoning blood, which he sprinkled upon the mercy seat.

Unfortunately today many are not comfortable with the idea of God “**tabernacling**” with men. The idea of God’s Glory being that close is a fearful thing. John says in (John 1:14) “We have seen his glory,” The disciples living with and under that Glory.

## THE THRONE

The Word of God shows great interest in the Throne of God. Why is the Throne of God mentioned so many times and why is it a focal point in relation to the Shekinah Glory of God?

There are many scriptures that verify the existence of God’s throne; here are a few of them.

1 Kings 22:19 Micaiah said, ..“I saw the LORD sitting on His throne”,

Isaiah 6:1 .. “I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up”.

Isaiah 66:1 Thus says the LORD, “Heaven is My throne and the earth is My footstool”.

Revelation 4:1-6 ..“and there was a rainbow around the throne, like an emerald in appearance”.

Revelation 20:11 “Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it”.

Revelation 4:2 ... “behold, a throne was standing in heaven”.

Most kingdoms have palaces with ruling Kings. Within the palace is a specially built throne in an elaborate grand room for the ruling King. Solomon had an elaborate throne made of ivory and gold. I have seen such grand palaces in Europe; many now museums

for democratic governments have removed the authority and majesty of its order. However, in bible times the throne was respected and often used for judicial purposes. (Luk 1:52) Proximity to a throne was considered a ranking position that came with honour. (1 Kin 2:19; Est 3:1; Mk 14:62; Col 3:1; Heb 8:1; 12:2)

The throne of God is stated as being in heaven where God is so big that the earth can be is used as God's footstool. (Psa 103:19; Isa 66:1; Mat 5:34-35)

The wording used for man's final judgment is "The White Throne Judgment". White is used many times to indicate purity and light and of course glory. (Psa 51:7; Isa 1:18; Rev 1:18)

The Shekinah glory was always a way forward in the lives of Prophets and should be considered so today by all believers. (Isa 6:1-8; Eze 1:1-4; Rev 1:12-18; 19:3-8) These scriptures give us all an insight into the importance of God's Throne and the importance of recognizing the Shekinah glory (be it by vision or otherwise) that shrouds the Eternal city.

## LIVING UNDER THE GLORY

1Cor 10:1 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that **all our fathers were under the cloud**, and all passed through the sea;

Paul says "all our fathers were under the cloud" (the cloud of Glory). If only we wanted to bring our churches to the cloud and ask them to abide under that cloud.

Israel on their journey from Egypt to the promised land were overshadowed by the cloud of Shekinah glory. During the day, the cloud sheltered them from the sun, and at night it shone as a pillar of fire. This Shekinah Glory was an ever present protection to the people of God. (Exodus 13:21-22).

Acts 1:9 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.

**"The Indwelling of the Spirit"** makes the believers body a temple for the indwelling of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Shekinah Glory (Ro 8:9-11; 1 Cor. 3:16; 6:19-20; 2 Cor. 6:16). The Holy Spirit indwells every believer in order to provide a temple for the indwelling of the **Shekinah Glory**, the Lord Jesus Christ, which serves as the principle of victory over the indwelling old sin nature. The Holy Spirit's purpose during the church is to indwell every believer in order to provide a temple for the indwelling of the Shekinah Glory, the Lord Jesus Christ, which serves as the principle of victory over the indwelling old sin

nature and provides the believer the spiritual capacity to understand the Word of God since the Spirit serves as the believer's true teacher and mentor in place of the absent Christ. (William Wenstrom)

**2Cor 12:9** And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may dwell (**episkenoo**) in me.

**Amplified Version:** My grace (My favor and loving-kindness and mercy) is enough for you [sufficient against any danger and enables you to bear the trouble manfully]; for My strength and power are made perfect (fulfilled and completed) and show themselves most effective in [your] weakness. Therefore, I will all the more gladly glory in my weaknesses and infirmities, that the strength and power of Christ (the Messiah) may rest (yes, may pitch a tent over and dwell) upon me! (2Cor 12:9 Amplified Version)

**Comment:** The verb **episkenoo** means literally to pitch a tent upon and thus to descend and abide upon or rest upon. This is the only use of this verb in Scripture.

**Some scholars say** that **episkenoo** means: to fix a tent upon, here upon Paul himself by a bold metaphor, as if the Shekinah of the Lord was overshadowing him (cf. Lk 9:34), the power (**dunamis**) of the Lord Jesus."

"**May dwell in me**" is picture similar to that which describes God descending from heaven and dwelling in the tabernacle among the people of Israel. And so here in 2Corinthians 12:9 Paul employs his natural tent making ability in spiritual terms when describing the Glory of Christ when Christ "pitches His tent" over them.

If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. (1Peter 4:14)

### **Additional Notes on the Shekinah Glory**

The SHEKINAH GLORY was seen as the visible sign of God's presence on the ark of testimony in the Holy of holies. Ex 25:22; Lev 16:2; 2Sa 6:2; 2Ki 19:14, 15; Ps 80:1; Isa 37:16; Eze 9:39:3; 10:18; He 9:5.

Remember **SHEKINAH** - she-ki'-na (shekhinah, "that which dwells," from the verb shakhen, or shakhan, "to dwell," "reside").

This word is not found in the Bible, but there are allusions to it in Is 60:2; Mt 17:5; Lk 2:9; Ro 9:4. As stated before. It was first found in the Targums.

## THE GLORY OF GOD RETURNS

**THE GLORY OF GOD RETURNS** - The last nine chapters of Ezekiel portray the temple, the sacrificial worship, the land and the people of Israel in the millennium. Previously, in Chapter 11, the glory of God had departed from Solomon's temple by way of the eastern gate, but in this closing section of the prophecy Ezekiel describes the return of the glory of God to consecrate the newly constructed millennial temple, Ezek. 43:1–5. The Shekinah glory returned by way of the eastern gate, the direction from which it previously had left; the glory of God thus 'filled the house' as it had done at the consecration of the completed tabernacle, Ex. 40:34–35, and Solomon's temple, 1 Kgs. 8:10–11; 2Chr 5:13–14. Having returned, God spoke to Ezekiel from the house, 'Son of man, the place of my throne and the place of the soles of my feet, where I shall dwell in the midst of the children of Israel for ever', Eze 43:7.

Between these two events, the glory of God dwelt among men in the person of the Word who became flesh, John 1:1, 14. The incarnate Word temporarily 'pitched his tent on the desert sands of time' and, says John, 'we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth, John 1:14. That glory was resident in the temple of His body, John 2:21. It was exhibited in His character and acts; His life and walk, His miracles, as turning water into wine, John 2:11, and the raising of Lazarus, John 11:4, 40, His transfiguration, 2 Pet. 1:17, His resurrection, Rom 6:4, His ascension and exaltation, 1 Pet 1:21, but pre-eminently in His cross work, the hour of His glory. As Christ anticipated His work on the cross He said, 'The hour is come that the Son of man should be glorified'. (John 12:23)

Later Paul affirms that the glory of God is seen in the face of Jesus Christ, 2 Cor. 4:6, and as individuals put their faith in Him, they become the temple of the Living God, John 14:23. 'Know ye not that your body is the temple: of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's', 1 Cor. 6:19–20. And we pray, 'Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me!'

## References relating to the Glory of the LORD

- **Revelation 4:6-8**

Before the throne *there was* a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne,

- and around the throne, *were* four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back. The first living creature *was* like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature *was* like a flying eagle. *The* four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!"
- **Genesis 3:24**  
So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the Garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.
- **Ezekiel 1:4-5**  
Then I looked, and behold, a whirlwind was coming out of the north, a great cloud with raging fire engulfing itself; and brightness *was* all around it and radiating out of its midst like the color of amber, out of the midst of the fire. Also from within it *came* the likeness of four living creatures. And this *was* their appearance: they had the likeness of a man.
- **Ezekiel 1:10**  
As for the likeness of their faces, *each* had the face of a man; each of the four had the face of a lion on the right side, each of the four had the face of an ox on the left side, and each of the four had the face of an eagle.
- **Ezekiel 1:13-14**  
As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance *was* like burning coals of fire, like the appearance of torches going back and forth among the living creatures. The fire was bright, and out of the fire went lightning. And the living creatures ran back and forth, in appearance like a flash of lightning.
- **John 1:1-3**  
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.
- **Revelation 4:2**  
Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and *One* sat on the throne.

## HOLINESS AROUND THE THRONE OF GOD

- **Isaiah 6:1-3**  
In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His *robe* filled the temple. Above it stood seraphim; each one had six



wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy *is* the LORD of hosts; The whole earth *is* full of His glory!"

- **Revelation 4:6-8**

Before the throne *there was* a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, *were* four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back. The first living creature *was* like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature *was* like a flying eagle. *The* four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying:

"Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!"

- **Ezekiel 1:4**

Then I looked, and behold, a whirlwind was coming out of the north, a great cloud with raging fire engulfing itself; and brightness *was* all around it and radiating out of its midst like the color of amber, out of the midst of the fire.

- **Ezekiel 1:13-14**

As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance *was* like burning coals of fire, like the appearance of torches going back and forth among the living creatures. The fire was bright, and out of the fire went lightning. And the living creatures ran back and forth, in appearance like a flash of lightning.

- **Ezekiel 1:26-28**

And above the firmament over their heads *was* the likeness of a throne, in appearance like a sapphire stone; on the likeness of the throne *was* a likeness with the appearance of a man high above it. Also from the appearance of His waist and upward I saw, as it were, the color of amber with the appearance of fire all around within it; and from the appearance of His waist and downward I saw, as it were, the appearance of fire with brightness all around. Like the appearance of a rainbow in a cloud on a rainy day, so *was* the appearance of the brightness all around it. This *was* the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD.

- **Revelation 4:2**

Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and *One* sat on the throne.

- **Revelation 4:11**

"You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power;  
For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created."

- **Revelation 5:8**

Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

- **Revelation 22:1**

And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb.

## DESCRIPTIONS OF THE GLORY

The Old and New Testaments record many descriptive references of the Glory of God. Even rabbis have searched beyond the Torah for the miracles relating to the Shekinah Glory. Many biblical references are more than just history that can be passed on to the next generation. (Exodus 19:16-18; 25:8; 40:34-38; 1 Kings 6:13). Other common terms in reference to the glory of God are: filling the temple (2 Chronicles 7:1), his presence at the cloud (Exodus 14:19; 1 Kings 8:10-13), and his dwelling in the mountain (Psalm 68:16-18; 74:2; Isaiah 8:18; Joel 3:17). Another way of describing it would be to use the term "glory of God" since the phrase is used to describe his presence (Psalm 19:1; Ezekiel 43:2; Luke 2:9; Acts 7:55).

Other phrases used in the scriptures that relate to the Shekinah are;

- Cloud, (Exodus 34:5; 40:34-38; Leviticus 16:2; Numbers 11:25; 14:14; 16:42 )
- Cloud of the Lord, (Exodus 40:38; Numbers 9:15; 1 Kings 8:10-11)
- Glory of God, (Exodus 16:10; Ezekiel 43:2; Luke 2:9; Acts 7:55)
- Glory of the Lord, (Exodus 24:15-16; 1 Kings 8:11; Ezekiel 1:28; Luke 2:9)
- Pillar of Cloud, (Exodus 13:21-22; 14:19-20; Numbers 12:5)
- Presence of the Lord, (Genesis 3:8; Leviticus 10:2; Numbers 16:7; Judges 5:5; Psalm 97:5)
- Radiance, (Habakkuk 3:4)
- Thick cloud (Exodus 19:9, 16; Exodus 20:21)

In the Old Testament, various people would see God. (Genesis 17:1; 18:1; Exodus 6:2-3; 24:9-11; Numbers 12:6-8). They would be in his presence. However, we know from the New Testament that they were not seeing the person of God the Father (John 6:46; 1 Timothy 6:16). They were seeing the pre-incarnate Christ. Of course, God would manifest himself in different forms in the Old Testament such as wind, a cloud,

In the New Testament, the manifestation of God, the manifestation of his presence, occurs in the person of Jesus. Jesus is the Word who became flesh (John 1:1, 14). In him, all the fullness of deity dwells in bodily form (Colossians 2:9). He is called "the radiance of his glory and the exact representation of his nature," (Hebrews 1:3). Therefore, to see Jesus was in effect, to seek God (John 14:9). Jesus is the Shekinah presence of God.

In the Person of Christ there is a **glory** which is seen and experienced by faith (2Cor 5:7, 2Cor 4:18).

The **glory of God** that was long ago only positioned in the sanctuary and only seen by the priest of the house of Aaron; is now positioned in all believers who position themselves in Jesus Christ. Christ has made us all priests unto God, who can access the Glory.

That glory the priest beheld but once in the year; but we steadily behold that glory at all times, and are transformed by the sight (2Cor 3:18). The glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ (2Cor 4:6) is not a thing of outward appearance, to be beheld with the eyes, like the pillar of cloud and fire; but there is an abiding, steady luster of holy, gracious, truthful character about our Lord Jesus Christ, which is best seen by those who by reason of sanctification are made fit to discern it.

## THE PSALMIST GLORY

Ps 80:1 (For the choir director; set to El Shoshannim; Eduth. A Psalm of Asaph.) Oh, give ear, Shepherd of Israel, Thou who dost lead Joseph like a flock; Thou **Who art enthroned above the cherubim**, shine forth!

"Thou that dwellest between the cherubims, shine forth." **The Lord's special presence was revealed upon the mercy seat between the cherubim, and in all our pleadings we should come to the Lord by this way: only upon the mercy seat will God reveal His grace, and only there can we hope to commune with Him.**

The Psalmist prophesied long ago, "He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust." (Ps 91:4)

It is a Psalmist prophetic prayer that stretches the Wings of God from heaven to earth, descending upon the people as Shekinah glory.

The manifestation of the Shekinah Glory seems to be God's desire to further an ongoing or deeper relationship with man. We find in (Gen 3:8) that every day God came to fellowship with Adam and Eve, "walking in the Garden in the cool of the day", bringing that needed presence into the garden every evening. The Shekinah then is not only localized in heaven around the throne of God, but originally there was interaction with Adam and Eve and today God is desirous to fellowship with the faithful wherever they live. Adam was put in a garden with everything he needed to sustain eternal life. I am not sure that Adam understood all the benefits that God had given Him. For wherever the Shekinah is, there is relationship with God that no other creature can enjoy. However, when Adam fell into sin the Shekinah was then placed there in the protection form of the Cherubim.

When we read the Bible from cover to cover we find a golden thread of God's encouragement seeking to bring God's people back to his awesome Glory presence.

David sang a new song of his inner desire.

**Psa 72:19** And blessed *be* his glorious name for ever: and **let the whole earth be filled with his glory**; Amen, and Amen.

Isaiah saw the whole earth filled with God's glory.

**Isa 6:3** And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, *is* the LORD of hosts: **the whole earth is full of his glory**.

In Christ we are raised into heavenly places.

Eph 2:6 And hath raised *us* up together, and **made us sit together in heavenly places** in Christ Jesus:

This is our destiny, to live with God in His glory forever.

**Rev 21:3** And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and **God himself shall be with them, and be their God**.

**Heb 11:16** But now they desire a better *country*, that is, **an heavenly**: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: **for he hath prepared for them a city**.

The psalmist sung about the goodness of God in the house. It is a GLORY HOUSE filled with presence of God.

**Psa 65:4** Blessed *is the man whom* thou choosest, and causest to approach *unto thee*, that he may dwell in thy courts: **we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, even of thy holy temple**.

As stated earlier in Old Testament times the Glory was in the Temple. God's presence "dwelt between the cherubim" over the mercy seat of the Ark of the Covenant (Ex. 25:22; Num. 7:89; 1Sam. 4:4; 2Sam. 6:2; 1Kin 7:29; 2Kin 19:15; 1Chr. 13:6; 2Chr. 5:7; 2Chr. 6:41; Ps. 80:1; Ps. 99:1; Isa. 37:16; Eze. 41:18).

We found that unless the glory of God "inhabits" the Temple (1Kin 8:10-11; 2Chr. 7:1; Eze. 43:2-4; 44:1-2; Hag. 2:7-9; Mat. 20:12) it is just a large architectural building. We have the biblical record of consequences of spiritual desolation when the Glory (Shekinah) departed from the Temple. When man became disinterested in the Glory, God removed it along with the protection and blessing of God.

We noted the result when the Shekinah left Solomon's Temple. See Ezekiel's prophecy (Eze 10:18; 11:22-23), the eventual result was the destruction of the Temple by Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon. When the Shekinah left the Second Temple in the days of Jesus (Mat. 23:38), the eventual result was the destruction of the Temple by Titus Vespasian of Rome (Mat. 24:1-3). These historical events should be a lesson to us today. It is a serious thing to allow powerless church formalities into the house of God.

The Shekinah glory can only come in visitation with an invitation by the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Men and women were created for the anointing of the Spirit. (1 Joh 2:20; 2:27).

Currently we are looking at the time when the Jews will again construct another temple with all the grandeur of the previous one. They will produce and select all the vessels of excellence as before. They will strive to restore all the original rituals including animal sacrifices and hope to again see the Shekinah glory of God. Unfortunately, the Shekinah cannot be retained around a 3 by 2 cubit box that can only be experienced once a year. We must remember that Pentecost changed all this. (Acts 2:1-4)

Solomon may have built a temple; but he knew the limitations of the house.

1Ki 8:27 But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, **the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house** that I have builded?

Note the following biblical visitations of the Shekinah Glory.

- Illuminated the earth prior to the creation of the sun and moon (Gen. 1:3, Gen 1:14).
- Walked with Adam and Eve in the Garden (Gen 3:8).
- Confirms the Abrahamic covenant while Abraham slept (Gen 15:17).
- Descended upon Mount Sinai at the giving of the law (Ex 19:18; Ex. 24:15-16; Ex. 33:18-23; Ex 34:5-6).
- Filled the Tabernacle in the wilderness (Ex 40:34).
- Filled Solomon's Temple upon its dedication (1K. 8:10-11; 2Chr. 7:1).
- Left Solomon's Temple due to Israel's sin (Eze 8:4-6; Eze 9:3; Eze 10:4, Eze 10:18-19; Eze 11:22-23).
- Returned to the Second Temple in the form of the incarnation of Messiah Jesus (Mat. 12:6; Mat. 21:12; John 1:14; John 2:15).
- Left the Second Temple desolate upon the departure of Jesus (Mat 23:38; Mat 24:2; Luke 13:35; 21:6). The Temple is left unprotected.
- Appeared on the Mount of Transfiguration (Mat. 17:2; Mark 9:2; Luke 9:29).
- Appeared to Paul on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:3; Acts 22:11; Acts 26:13; 1Ti. 6:16).
- Will return to the Millennial Temple (Isa. 60:3; Eze. 43:2-4).
- Illuminates the New Jerusalem (Rev. 21:23 Rev. 22:5).

Christ the ultimate and only deity that lived in and demonstrated the power of the Shekinah Glory was finally rejected of men (Isa 53:3) departed from the Mount of Olives. (Zech 14:4) It was not the person of Christ that was rejected it was the Glory of God that was rejected. The Mount of Olives is a significant place to visit when one visits

Israel. Just prior to His departure Jesus led His disciples out as far as Bethany (on the Mount of Olives), and He lifted up His hands and blessed them.

“And it came to pass while He blessed them, He was parted from them, and carried up to heaven” (Luke 24:50-51; Acts 1:1; 9:1).

We will not be able to work out by reason all the instances of visitation and why the Shekinah Glory was localized in different places. But we do know that wherever the Glory of God was experienced God put His name there. (Deu 12:5, 11, 21; 2Chr 6:20; 2Chr 7:16; 20:19; Ezra 6:12; Neh 1:9; Mat. 21:13; Mark 11:17; Luke 19:46).

GLORY REFERENCES: Gen 3:8, 24; Gen 15:17; Ex 3:2; Ex 13:21-22; Ex 14:19-20, 24; Ex. 16:10; Ex 19:18; Ex 24:15-16; Ex 33:18-23; Ex 34:5-6; Ex 40:34; Lev 9:6; Lev 9:23; Num 14:10, 22; Num 16:19, 42; Num 20:6; Deu 5:25-26; Deu 33:16; 1Kin. 8:10-11; 2Chr. 7:1; Isa 4:5; Isa 35:2; Isa 40:5; Isa 58:8; Isa 60:3; Eze 1:28; Eze 3:23; Eze. 9:3; Eze 10:18; Eze 43:2-4; Hag 2:7-9; Zec 2:5; Mat 16:27; Mat. 17:2; Mat. 24:30; Mark 9:3; Luke 2:8-9; Luke 9:29; John 1:14; Acts 2:3; Acts 9:3; Acts 22:6; Acts 26:13; Heb 1:3; 2Pet 1:16-17; Rev 1:14-16; Rev 15:8; Rev 21:3; Rev 21:23.

**Luke 9:28-33** Now it came to pass, about eight days after these sayings, that He took Peter, John, and James and went up on the mountain to pray. As He prayed, the appearance of His face was altered, and His robe *became* white *and* glistening. And behold, two men talked with Him, who were Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of His decease which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. But Peter and those with him were heavy with sleep; and when they were fully awake, **they saw His glory** and the two men who stood with Him. Then it happened, as they were parting from Him, that Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; and **let us make three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah**"—not knowing what he said.

Peter says something quite unbelievable. This is what man has done for centuries; building great church buildings. The wonder of such glory did not need an edifice. The persons of that glory did not need a tabernacle of recognition. Even Apostles can get it very wrong.

**II Corinthians 4:6** For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts **to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God** in the face of Jesus Christ.

I believe this is a two-way God given relationship that gives the KNOWLEDGE of the GLORY of GOD. Christ's life made it possible for us as SONS to walk in the same glory.



**I Corinthians 3:16-17** Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you?

**I Corinthians 6:19** Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

For some reason, he wanted to get this across to the Corinthian church. He mentions this three times in these two letters in I & II Corinthians.

**II Corinthians 6:16** And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them and walk among *them*. I will be their God, and they shall be My people."

It would seem that the Shekinah glory no longer sits between the Cherubim in a physical temple. God's glory is now residing in our inner temple. God's glory is wherever we reside. We have been given the privilege to house the Shekinah of God.

**II Corinthians 3:17-18** Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord *is*, there *is* liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, **are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory**, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

**I Peter 2:5, 9** You also, **as living stones**, are being **built up a spiritual house**, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ...But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, **His own special people**, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

## GLORY INTERVENTION

The physical "Shekinah" was very evident at the crossing of the Red Sea --

"At the morning watch, the LORD looked down upon the Egyptian army from a PILLAR OF FIRE AND CLOUD, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. **He locked the wheels of their chariots** so that they moved forward with difficulty. And the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt" (Exodus 14:24-25).

The Israelites were led by the "Shekinah" for forty years, after which the "holy presence" of the omniscient God inhabited the Tabernacle and the land of Israel. The "Shekinah" was not always afterwards physically manifested -- as we read in Numbers 35:34.

"You shall not defile the land in which you live, in which I Myself abide ['shakan'], for I the LORD [YEHOVAH] abide ['shakan'] among the Israelite people."

We must respect the fact that the Shekinah Glory is of great value. It resided among the Israelites. God warned against defiling the land. God did not want the heathen Egyptians in the land; not even to cross the thresh-hold of the river so God intervened and locked the wheels of the chariots.

THE LORD ['Cavod YHVH'] appeared in the sight of the Israelites as a consuming fire on the top of the mountain" (Exodus 24:15-17).

**Exo 24:17** And the sight of the glory of the LORD *was* like devouring fire on the top of the mount in the eyes of the children of Israel.

The Psalms describe this Shekinah Event:

"Why do you fume with envy, you mountains of many peaks? This is the mountain [Sinai] which God desires to dwell ['shakan'] in; yes, the LORD [YEHOVAH] will dwell in it forever. The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of thousands; the LORD is among them as in Sinai, in the Holy Place. You have ascended on high, you have led captivity captive; you have received gifts among men, even among the rebellious, that the LORD GOD might dwell ['shakan'] there" (Psalm 68:16-18).

The physical "Shekinah" presence of God has intervened so many times it cannot be overlooked.

There are other occasions when personal interaction with the Shekinah appeared to be more personal intervention of God. Moses needed a larger portion of that "Physical Presence of God" In Exodus 33, Moses asked to actually "see" YEHOVAH God -- and God allowed him to see a LARGER portion His PHYSICAL Shekinah Glory presence.

Exo 33:18 And he said, I beseech thee, **shew me thy glory**. This was the "Shekinah Glory".

[Moses was speaking to God's (Yehovah) voice coming from the 'Shekinah.']

Moses had a great friendship with God.

Exo 33:11 And **the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend**.

In the same chapter there is mention of God using angels to conquer heathen tribes; another physical intervention.

**Exo 33:2** And I will send an angel before thee; and I will drive out the Canaanite, the Amorite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite:

Many people of the years have gone searching for the Shekinah Glory in a geographical location.

"There is also another reason why Christians in the first century were very interested in the Mount of Olives. This is because it was believed that the Shekinah Glory of God which supposedly dwelt inside the Holy of Holies at the Temple left the sanctuary and went to the Mount of Olives and hovered over that spot at the time of the Roman/Jewish War which ended in A.D. 70. The fact that the Shekinah Glory left the old Temple and migrated to the top of the Mount of Olives was an important event to Eusebius [church historian and scholar A.D. 260?-340?]" (*Secrets of Golgotha*, by Ernest L. Martin. 1988: ASK Publications, Alhambra, CA. p. 83).

In Eusebius' book ***Proof of the Gospel*** we find this passage --

"Believers in Christ congregate from all parts of the world, not as of old time because of the glory of Jerusalem, nor that they may worship in the ancient Temple at Jerusalem, but...that they may worship at the Mount of Olives opposite to the city, *whither the glory* [the Shekinah Glory] *of the LORD* [YEHOVAH, YHVH] *migrated when it left the former city*" (Book VI, Chapter 18 (288)).

According to Eusebius the "Shekinah" Glory left the Temple and hovered over the Mount of Olives during "the siege of Jerusalem" (66 A.D. to 70). However, Eusebius was not the only observer who mentioned that the "Shekinah" Glory left the Temple before the destruction of the Temple and hovered over the Mount of Olives. A Jewish rabbi named Jonathan -- who was an eyewitness to the destruction of Jerusalem -- said the "Shekinah" Glory left the Temple and for three and a half years

"abode on the MOUNT OF OLIVES hoping that Israel would repent, but they did not; while a Bet Kol [a supernatural voice from heaven] issued forth announcing, Return, O backsliding children [Jer. 3:14]. Return unto Me, and I will return unto you [Mal. 3:7], when they did not repent, it said, I WILL RETURN TO MY PLACE [Hosea 5:15] (Midrash Rabbah, Lamentations 2:11)" (*Secrets of Golgotha*, by Ernest L. Martin. 84).

There was yet another writer who recorded the fact of the "Shekinah" presence of YEHOVAH God moving from the Temple in Jerusalem just before the war with the Romans. Josephus mentioned that in the Spring of 66 A.D. some astonishing events took place within the Temple. He recorded three miracles associated with YEHOVAH's "Shekinah" and the Temple -- and each one showed clearly that the "Shekinah" was departing from the Holy of Holies. In *War* VI, 290 he stated "that a GREAT LIGHT shone over the altar for thirty minutes at 3 o'clock in the morning (a week before

Passover in A.D. 66) and then it DEPARTED. He said the sacred scribes interpreted this sign as a bad omen for the Temple. It was like the Shekinah Glory moving away from the Tabernacle in the wilderness as a sign to disassemble the Tabernacle and transport it to another location" (*ibid.*).

Josephus goes on to say that "a few days later (during Passover itself) the enormous brass gates of Nicanor, requiring twenty men to open and close them, opened at midnight of their own accord (*War* VI, 293-295). This was also interpreted as showing a desolation coming upon the Temple. And then, about fifty days later, on Pentecost, the final sign was given which definitely showed that the Shekinah Glory was *departing* the Temple as the other signs indicated (*ibid.*):

"Moreover, at the festival which is called Pentecost, the priests on entering the inner court of the Temple at nightfall, as their custom was in accomplishment of their ministrations, stated that they first became aware of a commotion and a roar, and after that the voice of a great multitude saying '*We are departing hence*'" (*War* VI, 299).

When we couple Josephus' information with that of Rabbi Jonathan (also an eyewitness) we can see that the "Shekinah" went directly to the Mount of Olives and remained over the top of the mountain for 3 and 1/2 years -- from late Spring in 66 A.D to about December of 69 A.D, some eight months before the Temple was destroyed by the Romans. It then went back to heaven and had not returned to earth up to the time he wrote.

These miraculous events had much more significance to the early Christians than may meet the eye today. Eusebius, as we have just seen, mentioned the importance of this removal of the Shekinah glory. It was clearly a sign that YEHOVAH's physical presence had departed from the Temple on the western hill of Jerusalem and had retreated to the MOUNT OF OLIVES on the EAST as the new place of His divine residence. This event of the "Shekinah" glory leaving the Temple and residing on the Mount of Olives became highly significant to the early Christians because this is the mountain where YEHOVAH's holy "Shekinah" will RETURN in the near future!

### **Vision of the Temple**

Ezekiel, still in a vision, returned to the captives in Babylon and later saw yet another TEMPLE -- which is recorded in chapters 40-43 of his book. In his vision of this Temple, as it would have been if the House of Israel had repented of their national sins and returned to YEHOVAH God after they were taken into Assyrian captivity, Ezekiel saw the "Shekinah" RETURN to the Holy of Holies. Ezekiel states that this is THE SAME "Shekinah" he saw leave the Temple when he had the vision by the river Chebar.

"And behold, the glory ['Shekinah'] of the God of Israel came from THE WAY OF THE EAST [FROM THE MOUNT OF OLIVES]. His voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shone with His ['Shekinah'] glory. It was like the appearance of the vision which I saw -- like the vision which I saw when I came to destroy the city. The visions were like the vision which I saw by the River Chebar; and I fell on my face. And the glory of the LORD ['Cavod YHVH'] came into the Temple by way of the gate WHICH FACES TOWARD THE EAST. The spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, the glory of the LORD ['Cavod YHVH'] filled the Temple. Then I heard Him speaking to me from the Temple while a man stood beside me. And he said to me, 'Son of man, this is the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet, where I will dwell [*shakan*] in the midst of the children of Israel FOREVER. NO MORE shall the house of Israel defile My holy name, they nor their kings, by their harlotry or with the carcasses of their kings on their high places'" (Ezekiel 43:2-7).

This event, which Ezekiel experienced in vision, was never fulfilled because of Israel's unfaithfulness.

However, YEHOVAH God *will* return to a future Millennial Temple. This event is recorded in (Zechariah 2:10-13)

"Sing, Jerusalem, and rejoice! For I have come to dwell [*shakan*] among you, says the LORD".

It sounds like an unbelievable age of great peace (unlike what we currently have in the Middle East). It would seem like a miracle, however, this is what happens when Christ and His real Shekinah returns to the Millennial Temple at the end of the church age. (Zechariah 8:4-6).

In Revelation 19:13 the phrase "The Word of God" is capitalized in the original Greek, thereby indicating the Rider of the white horse to be the physical "Shekinah" representation of YEHOVAH God. In other words the Shekinah should be seen as a "PERSON". He is not an "IT" as stated in some translations.

Any one of the eight English translations of the Bible prior to 1611 (the *Tyndale Bible* (1535), the *Matthew Bible* (1535), the *Taverner Bible* (1539), the *Great (Cranmer's) Bible* (1539), the *Whittingham Bible* (1557), the *Geneva Bible* (1560) and *Bishop's Bible* (1568)) assign no gender to the "Word" and simply call it "it," such as in John 1:3: "By IT all things were made. Without IT nothing was made." The *Coverdale Bible* (1550) has "THE SAME" rather than "it."

This article has shown that the Shekinah Glory was the manifestation of YEHOVAH God the Father. If we replace the word "Manifestation" with the words "Shekinah Glory" in these verses of John, then we clearly see that "The Word of God" in Revelation 19:13 is none other than YEHOVAH'S Shekinah Glory!

**Let paraphrase John 1:1-2**

**Verse 1:** In the beginning [of creation] there was the SHEKINAH GLORY; and that SHEKINAH GLORY was with God [YEHOVAH]; and God [YEHOVAH] was [the embodiment of] that SHEKINAH GLORY.

**Verse 2:** This [the SHEKINAH GLORY] was in the beginning with God [YEHOVAH].

In Isaiah 64:1-4 we find like an instance not unfamiliar throughout the Old Testament where the mountains shake at the Shekinah presence of God. There was a visitation to those that were waiting on God

**Isa 64:4** For since the beginning of the world *men* have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, ***what he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him.***

In closing I would like to encourage my readers to read my book “Still Impossible”. It highlights many visitations of the SHEKINAH Glory during my forty years of missionary service. The unusual signs, wonders and miracles are true events showing the awesome miracle working power of the Glory of God.

Rev. Lawrence Gregor