

## **MY HELPER #19 THE CLOUD THAT BECOMES FIRE**

Exo. 13 <sup>21</sup> By day the Lord went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night. <sup>22</sup> Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place in front of the people. NIV

Israel is about to leave the bondage of Egypt. They are following Moses to the edge of the Red Sea when something unusual happens, a cloud forms over them.

Of course this cloud is a symbol or type of the Holy Spirit. What this cloud offered Israel is what the Holy Spirit is doing for us today.

What was the importance of the appearance of this cloud?

### **I. THE SUDDEN APPEARANCE OF THIS CLOUD SYMBOLIZED THE MANIFEST PRESENCE OF GOD.**

#### **V 21 By day the Lord went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud...**

- A. They are walking in obedience to Moses command after 10 miracles occur at his command.
- B. They will be facing a barren, waterless, arid, wilderness.
- C. God manifest His presence to assure them that He is with them.
- D. Our life is a journey filled with test, trials, and enemies. There are times we feel so empty, tired, and dry spiritually yet He has promised us his presence. How is his presence made known? By the Holy Spirit.  
**We can go through any life struggle if we just know He is with us.** The Holy Spirit has come to abide with us

forever. John 14:16

We can say that when you received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit there was a **covering** (an **endowment** or clothing from heaven Luk. 24:49) that came upon you to assure you of His presence.

In the book of Acts the disciples were told not to start their spiritual journey until the Holy Spirit showed up.

The sudden appearance of this cloud not only revealed the presence of God but...

## **II. THE SUDDEN APPEARANCE OF THIS CLOUD WAS TO GUIDE THEM.**

By day the Lord went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way...

- A. It would guide them to **their future home: the Promised Land.**
- B. It would guide them **to water, to satisfy their thirst.**
- C. It would guide them **in the way they should go.**
- D. We too do not know when nor where we should go without the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Not only did the cloud appear to manifest the presence of God and to provide guidance but also....

## **III. THE SUDDEN APPEARANCE OF THE CLOUD WAS TO PROTECT THEM.**

- A. **The cloud would provide shade to protect them from the heat.**

This land was hot during the day. The journey becomes

almost more than you can bear he will protect you.

B. The cloud would **protect them from their enemies, the Egyptians.**

**Please turn with me to the following passage. I want you to discover what God has given you:**

**Exo. 14** <sup>19</sup> Then the angel of God, who had been traveling in front of Israel's army, withdrew and went behind them. The pillar of cloud also **moved from in front and stood behind them,** <sup>20</sup> coming between the armies of Egypt and Israel. Throughout the night **the cloud brought darkness to the one side and light to the other side;** so neither went near the other all night long.

<sup>21</sup> Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the Lord drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided, <sup>22</sup> and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.

<sup>23</sup> The Egyptians pursued them, and all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and horsemen followed them into the sea. <sup>24</sup> During the last watch of the night the Lord looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion. <sup>25</sup> He made the wheels of their chariots come off so that they had difficulty driving. And the Egyptians said, "Let's get away from the Israelites! The Lord is fighting for them against Egypt." NIV

**1. The cloud came between Israel and Egypt. V-20**

The enemy would not be able to touch them.

The Holy Spirit typified by the cloud will lead us, but when He is behind us He is there to deal with our enemies.

**2. The cloud brought darkness to Egyptians but**

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**light to Israel. V-20**

**3. The cloud provided the powerful wind that made a way for their escape. Vs 21,22**

There came a wind from the east and dried the bottom of the Red Sea. This cloud settled over the upper room and “there came a sound as of a might rushing wind...” When it was finished it had deposited the power of God into the lives of those it entered.

**4. The cloud brought confusion on the enemy by “the wheels coming off the chariots”. V 24**

The cloud appeared not only to manifest the presence of God, to guide them, and to protect them but also...

**IV. THE SUDDEN APPEARANCE OF THE CLOUD WOULD AT NIGHT BECAME A PILLAR OF FIRE!**

<sup>21</sup> By day the Lord went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night.

**A. The cloud became fire at night to give them light.**

It is easy to become confused in the night of our life. There is no expectancy, no new revelation, no hope, it seems that all is against us, our life is being lived without knowing what is happening in the dark.

The Holy Spirit has come to “give light” to our darkness. He will lead and guide us into all truth (revelation).

What we need in the night is to know that the “fire” will help us.

**B. The cloud became fire at night to give them warmth.**

In the wilderness it got very cold at night. Yet God provided for his people not only light but warmth. This was for their comfort.

Are you in a “night” experience in your life? Do you need His guidance? His protection? His presence? His comfort?

He is there. Relax and know that the Holy Spirit is there to help you in the dark times of your life. You are going to make it because the Holy Spirit is here!