**R945 Rumination for Mar. 5, 2023 by K.C. Ung**

The **T**heme: **the Cloud!** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: *Behold, He cometh with clouds;* Rev. 1:7

 The **T**hots:

1. **God Promised not to destroy the earth by flood with a Bow in the Cloud. Gen. 9:13, 14**
*I do set My bow in the* ***C****loud, and it shall be for a token of a* ***C****ovenant between Me and the earth.*

*And it shall come to pass, when I bring a* ***C****loud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the* ***C****loud:*

*And the bow shall be in the* ***C****loud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting* ***C****ovenant between God and every living* ***C****reature of all flesh that is upon the earth.* Gen. 9:16

1. When God Created the Heavens and the **E**arth they were very good. Gen. 1:31

*God saw everything that He had1 made, and, behold, it was very good.*

1. But Satan tempted **E**ve to **E**at of the fruit of the tree of good and **E**vil to be Good and she became **E**vil.
2. **S**atan **S**aid: *God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened,*

*and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.* Gen. 3:5

1. *And when the* ***W****oman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes,*

*and a tree to be desired to make one* ***W****ise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat,*

*and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.* Gen. 3:6

1. And it led to the **W**hole **W**orld being ***W****icked* so that God had to destroy it. Gen. 6:5

*And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth,*

*and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*

1. God **D**ecided to **D**estroy the Earth and save Noah and his family to start a new generation. Gen. 6:13 *And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before Me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.*
2. After the flood God **P**ersonally **P**romised… Gen. 9:16

*And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth.*

* The **R**ainbow that we see today is ever a **R**eminder of God’s **C**ovenant with His **C**reation!
1. **God Guided His People with a Pillar of Cloud.**   **Exo. 13:22; 14:19**
2. In their 40-year **W**anderings in the **W**ilderness:
3. *And it came to pass, as Aaron spake unto the whole congregation of the children of Israel,*

*that they looked toward the wilderness, and, behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud.*

*He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people.*

1. *And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them;*

*and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them:*

1. *For the cloud of the LORD was upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was on it by night,*

 *in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.* Exo. 40:39

1. In the Times when the **H**igh Priest could Enter the **H**oly of **H**olies in the Tabernacle: Lev. 16:2

 *And the LORD said unto Moses, Speak unto Aaron thy brother, that he come not at all times*

*into the holy place within the vail before the mercy seat, which is upon the ark;*

*that he die not: for I will appear in the cloud upon the mercy seat.*

* Note: When Christ died on the cross the veil in the Temple was rent open from top to bottom

signifying the way of access into God’s Presence was now open. Mt. 27:50, 51 cf. Heb. 9:8

*Jesus, when He had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;*

1. **Christ and The Cloud/s in His Ministry: Mt. 17:5; Mk. 9:7**
2. At His Transfiguration… Lk. 9:34, 35
*…there came a cloud, and overshadowed them: and they feared as they entered into the cloud.*

*And there came a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is My beloved Son: hear Him.*

1. In His Ascension… *He was taken up; and a cloud* ***R****eceived Him out of their sight.*Acts 1:9
2. In His **R**eturn from Heaven:

*…then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.* Lk. 21:27

*Behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him…* Rev. 1:7

1. In His Meeting with His **R**aptured Saints: I Thes. 4:17

*Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds,*

*to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.*

1. In His **R**eign seated in the Clouds. Rev. 14:14-16

*And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man,*

*having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle.*

* *Behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced Him:*

*and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him. Even so, Amen.* Rev. 1:7

 They shall **W**ail but we who **W**ait for His **R**eturn shall Prevail and **R**ejoice. Are we **R**eady?

*When the Lord shall come in glory, In the clouds from Heav’n descending,*

*What rejoicing there will be; All the saved shall rise to meet Him*

*On that bright and cloudless morning, At His coming in the clouds.*

*He is coming, in the clouds, Hallelujah! Shout hosannas!*

 *All the saved shall rise to meet Him, At His coming in the clouds.* William M. Ramsey

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 945**

**1.** In the English language, there are numerous “***cloud***” idioms to signify the condition or circumstances one is in. Here are a few:

*To be on cloud nine*

*To have one’s head in the clouds*

*To be lost in clouds.*

*To be under a cloud*

*To be in a dark cloud*

*To be in cloud-cuckoo land*

*To be walking on a cloud/clouds*

*To be under a cloud of suspicion*

*To get your head out of the clouds*

*To cloud the issue*

*To cloud (one's) judgment*

[*A cloud hangs over (someone or something)*](https://idioms.thefreedictionary.com/a%2Bcloud%2Bhangs%2Bover%2B%28someone%2Bor%2Bsomething%29)

*A* [*dark cloud on the horizon*](https://idioms.thefreedictionary.com/dark%2Bcloud%2Bon%2Bthe%2Bhorizon)

*E*[*very cloud has a silver lining*](https://idioms.thefreedictionary.com/every%2Bcloud%2Bhas%2Ba%2Bsilver%2Blining)

*Head in the clouds, etc., etc.*

Do you know the meanings of the above *cloud*-idioms? Describe the condition or circumstances you are in or under those *cloud*-conditions.

Whatever conditions you may find yourself in in life, remember the Sun is always shining above the dark clouds. You can always look up to the Sun of Righteousness no matter what your circumstances are on earth. He is always there for you. **REFLECT.**

**2.** The *Cloud* played a very important role in God’s relationship with His people Israel.

 He manifested and maintained His visible presence to and among His people, Israel with the physical presence of a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night throughout His people’s forty-year wanderings in the wilderness, signalling to them when to move, when and where to pitch the Tabernacle: Exo. 13, 21, 22

*And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way;*

*and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night:*

*He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people.*

He also used the cloud as His medium of communication to speak to them personally in public or to make His proclamations to them, as well as made it available for them to appear before Him, providing them with His divine protection in case they were struck down with His glory:

Exodus 19:9 – *And the LORD said unto Moses, Lo, I come unto thee in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with thee, and believe thee for ever.*

Exodus 24:16 – *And the glory of the LORD abode upon mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days: and the seventh day He called unto Moses out of the midst of the cloud.*

Exodus 24:18 *– And Moses went into the midst of the cloud, and gat him up into the mount: and Moses was in the mount forty days and forty nights.*

Exodus 34:5 *– And the LORD descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD.*

Exodus 40:34, 35 – *Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle…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.*

In the past, Moses was not allowed to see the Glory of the Lord. (Exo. 33:23). Today we see Him through the glass and are changed from glory to glory in likeness to our God!

II Cor. 3:18, NKJV *– 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.*

Thus the need for us to be like Him with each passing moment. Is it so with us? **REFLECT**

**Points To Ponder: *T****oday we see the Lord through the Mirror of His Word;*

***T****omorrow we shall see Him Face to Face.*