

MOSES WAS NOT ABLE TO ENTER*

וַיִּכַס הָעָנָן אֶת־אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד

וַכְבוֹד יְהוָה מָלֵא אֶת־הַמִּשְׁכָּן:

וְלֹא־יָכַל מֹשֶׁה לָּבוֹא אֶל־אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד

כִּי־שָׁכַן עָלָיו הָעָנָן וַכְבוֹד יְהוָה מָלֵא אֶת־הַמִּשְׁכָּן:

Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting,
and the glory of Adonai filled the tabernacle.

And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of meeting
because the cloud abode on it, and the glory of Adonai filled the tabernacle.

Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of Adonai filled the tabernacle—The free-will offering of the whole community was made so unstintingly, so whole-heartedly, that God's splendor became palpably present throughout. And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of meeting because the cloud abode on it, and the glory of Adonai filled the tabernacle—Moses could not enter into God's presence in the tent of meeting as he once had as the prophet of God, because the combined goodness of the people had enabled them to create a sacred place in which God would always be among the whole people.

* Exodus 40:34-35 (in Pekude)