



# The Pillar of God Among Us

Exodus 13:17-22

# 1. God Was With Them to **Guide** Them

- ➔ (13:21) It is God's will to be with His people
- ➔ (40:35-38) God was **directing** them every step of their journey. It was up to them to **follow** God.
- ➔ (13:17-19) God has led them in an **unusual direction**. Has God ever done that in your life, leading you in a direction that makes no sense to you, or where you did not want to go? (ill: cancer)
- ➔ (Isa. 55:9) Do you trust God to **lead**? Will you go?



## 2. God Shined on Them by Night



- God is **light** (John 1:9; 8:12), by nature he shines on us and to show us the way
- Note: It was not God's desire for us to be lost
- There are times we **feel lost** (i.e. sheep) and see no way out. We need a light to guide us out of our mess—one that never changes. At such times we need to remember the God of Light.
- (Psalm 119:105) **God's word** is also a light to our path. We need to walk to the light.

### 3. God Just Wanted to Be There With Them

- God was with His people, and wants to be **with** His people (v.22)
- Note: God was making it very **obvious**
- It must be a great **comfort** for them to know that God was with them (Deu. 31:6-8; Jos. 1:5-7)
- True **courage** is to know that God is with us
- Instead of gazing up at the beauty of God & relying on Him, do we take God for granted?



## 4. God Had Protected Them



- (Exo. 14:19-20) God moved and stood **between** them and their enemies (Psalm 23:4)
- There was **no light** for the enemies (Prov. 4:18-19)
- (Rom. 8:31-32) God would never allow His people to be **completely destroyed** (Rom. 11:4-5)
- The world may want to wipe us out, but we need not **fear** (ill: newspaper)

## 5. God Declared Himself to Them



- (Neh. 9:19) The Pillar of God was also supposed to remind them of God's **mercy**. Although time and time again they sinned against God, He never left them or forsake them.
- (Psalm 106:6-10) The presence of God should remind us of the **steadfast love** of God and His deliverance...but does it?
- Have we forgotten the love & mercy of God?

# Conclusion: the Presence of God



- God is in the business of **guiding** us and **shining** on us—to show us the way (do you feel lost?)
- God is also in the business of being **with** His people. Has that become our comfort and courage?
- Are we still **afraid** even though theologically we know that God can **protect** us?
- As we experience God's presence, are we **reminded** of God's mercy and love?