

THE BEAUTY OF CLOUDS

By Bill Pugh

Like us, clouds have many moods. Really dark clouds symbolise darkness and coming rain.

Some clouds signal a coming storm. Winds come and drive the clouds away and we have blue skies, sunshine, Spring and Summer, according to nature's seasons.

On their journey to the Promised Land, the Israelites were protected and guided by an over-reaching cloud by day and pillar of fire at night.

God was with them all the time and all the way.

On the Mount of Transfiguration, God spoke to Peter, James and John out of the cloud. Jesus was dazzlingly transfigured before them.

God said, *"This is my Son the Beloved, with him I am well pleased, Listen to him."* (Matthew 7:1-5)

Sometimes clouds make us sad and gloomy, according to our moods, yet above the clouds shine the sun, moon and stars in the heavens, and when the clouds are lifted and the sun shines we know all is well. And there is more.

The psalmist put it this way:
O Lord my God, you are very great, you are clothed with honour and majesty, wrapped in light as in a garment,

You stretch out the heavens like a tent, you set the beams of your chambers on the waters, you make the clouds your chariot, you ride on the wings of the wind, You make the winds your messengers, fire and flame your ministers. (Psalm 104:1-4)

There is no limit for our living and moving God, who can and will drive away the gloom and clouds of our depression and cause the sun to break through and shine for each of us.

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