The Tabernacle of the Congregation

Ex.8 And it came to pass, when Moses went out unto the tabernacle, that all the people rose up, and stood every man at his tent door, and looked after Moses, until he was gone into the tabernacle.

9 And it came to pass, as Moses entered into the tabernacle, the cloudy pillar descended, and stood at the door of the tabernacle, and the LORD talked with Moses.

10 And all the people saw the cloudy pillar stand at the tabernacle door: and all the people rose up and worshipped, every man in his tent door.

Before the Tabernacle was completed the Lord would meet with Moses **in the temporary place** called the “Tabernacle of the Congregation” **Preparation-**Ex.3:5 Rev.19:7-8 ICor.3:17,15:49 2Cor.5:4

* The place to which all the people came for justice and judgment.
* The place where everyone which sought the LORD went out unto the tabernacle of the congregation, which was without the camp.
* As Moses entered into the tabernacle, the cloudy pillar descended, and stood at the door of the tabernacle, and the LORD talked with Moses
* All the people rose up and worshipped, every man in his tent door
* The LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend.
* Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle.

God's presence was to be outside the camp, away from the people, not inside the camp, not among the people. believers who really wanted to seek the Lord had to go outside the camp to seek Him

God withdrew His presence from the people because of their sin --- God wants everything

**Ex 32:2** And Aaron said unto them, Break off the golden earrings, which are in the ears of your wives, of your sons, and of your daughters, and bring them unto me.

3 And all the people brake off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them unto Aaron.

4 And he received them at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, after he had made it a molten calf: and they said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.

**33:4** And when the people heard these evil tidings, they mourned: and no man did put on him his ornaments.

5 For the LORD had said unto Moses, Say unto the children of Israel, Ye are a stiffnecked people: I will come up into the midst of thee in a moment, and consume thee: therefore now put off thy ornaments from thee, that I may know what to do unto thee.

6 And the children of Israel stripped themselves of their ornaments by the mount Horeb.

7 And Moses took the tabernacle, and pitched it without the camp, afar off from the camp, and called it the Tabernacle of the congregation. And it came to pass, that **every one which sought the LORD** went out unto the tabernacle of the congregation, which was without the camp.

**God draws nigh to His friends**

**33:11** And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his **friend.** And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle.

James 4:8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

Hebrews 7:19 For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God.

* Drawing nigh Ps. 69:18 – David Job 42:10 Luke 12:4,8; 21:28,36,38 SOS 5:1;16

**Isaiah 5:16-17**;18-24; Zech.13:6 Deut. 4:7 Ps.77:13 Eph.4:24 Rev.21:3 Jn.1:14

John 15:14*—Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.*