

23 Then I will take My hand away and you shall see My back (אֶחָצִי), by My face shall not be seen."

NOTE: This passage uses the figure of speech called "anthropolomorphis", which means a description of or reference to characteristics or actions of a nonhuman being in terms of characteristics, actions, forms, or bodily parts of a human being. In this case the nonhuman being is God.

The anthropomorphism "face" (פָּנָי) probably refers to the full, direct manifestation of the glory of God, upon which Moses was unable to look.

The anthropomorphism "hand" (יָד) probably refers to the protection with which God shielded Moses from the full brilliance of His glory.

The anthropomorphism "back" (אֶחָצִי) probably refers to a less direct, partial manifestation of the glory of God, upon which Moses could look. Perhaps the term "aftermath" or the term "aftereffects" adequately unpacks the term "back".

The full thought appears to be that, since Moses would be unable to look upon God's glory directly, God protected him and revealed something of His glory by allowing Moses to see its aftereffects.

d. Revelation by means of the Angel of the lord

Exodus 23:20-23

- 20 Behold, I am going to send an angel before you to guard you along the way, and to bring you into the place which I have prepared.
21 Be on your guard before him and obey his voice; do not be rebellious toward him, for he will not pardon your transgression, since My name is in him.
22 But if you will truly obey his voice and do all that I say, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries.
23 For My angel will go before you and bring you in to the land of the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Canaanites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites; and I will completely destroy them."

Isaiah 63:7 9

- 7 I shall make mention of the loving kindnesses of the Lord, the praises of the Lord, according to all that the Lord has granted us, and the great goodness toward the house of Israel, which He has granted them according to His compassion, and according to the multitude of His lovingkindnesses.