

610

The Cleft of the Rock

The LORD said to Moses, ‘I will do the very thing that you have asked; **for you have found favour in my sight, and I know you by name.**’

Moses said, ‘Show me your glory, I pray.’

And he said, ‘I will make all my goodness pass before you,

and will proclaim before you the name, “The LORD”;

and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious,

and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.

But’, he said, ‘you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live.’

And the LORD continued, ‘See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock;

and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock,

and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by;

then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back;

but my face shall not be seen.’

(Exod. 33:17-23)