

The Horns of Moses

Statue of Moses by
Michaelangelo in the
Church of S. Pietro in
Vincoli

Why does Moses
have horns?



http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/5d/Michelangelo_-_Moses.jpg

Exodus 34:35

- וַרְאוּ בְנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶת־פְּנֵי מֹשֶׁה כִּי
קָרַן עוֹר פְּנֵי מֹשֶׁה
- And the sons of Israel would see the face
of Moses, that *it-shone* – the skin of the
face of Moses

Exodus 34:35

- καὶ εἶδον οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ τὸ πρόσωπον
Μωϋσῆ ὅτι δεδόξασται...
- And the sons of Israel saw the face of
Moses, that *it was glorified*

Exodus 34:35

- וַרְאוּ בְנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶת־פְּנֵי מֹשֶׁה כִּי
קָרַן עוֹר פְּנֵי מֹשֶׁה
- Hol7651 קָרַן
- קָרַן: qal: pf. 'ק': shine, be radiant (of face)
Ex 34₂₉:35.
- hif.: pt. מִקְרִין: be with horns Ps 69₃₂.

קָרַן or קָרַן

- קָרַן = shine, be radiant
- קָרַן = horn

Exodus 34:35

- Vulgate qui videbant faciem egredientis Mosi esse **cornutam** sed operiebat rursus ille faciem suam si quando loquebatur ad eos
- DouayRheims And they saw that the face of Moses when he came out was **horned**, but he covered his face again, if at any time he spoke to them.

Exodus 34:35

- καὶ εἶδον οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ τὸ πρόσωπον Μωυσῆ ὅτι κερατώδης ἦν ...
- And the sons of Israel saw the face of Moses, that **it had horns...**

This information is found in a footnote to Exod 34:35 in Fields, Origenis Hexapla – Also cf. http://ancienthebrewpoetry.typepad.com/ancient_hebrew_poetry/2008/03/did-moses-have.html