

The Rent Vail

Text: Matthew 27:50-56

V 51 – “And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;”

Intro:

- We see as a result of the crucifixion of Christ a number of things took place.
- In our passage we are told that the earth did quake.
 - I believe that not only earth at Calvary and the surrounding area quaked but the entire planet earth quaked that day.
- We are told that the rocks rent.
 - What tremendous amount of energy was released from heaven that day.
 - The rocks were torn apart.
- We are told that the saved dead were brought to life again as the graves were opened and the saints that slept arose.
 - We are told that after the resurrection of Christ they came out of the graves and went and appeared to many that day in Jerusalem.
 - I am sure that there were many that day that dropped dead of heart attack after seeing someone they knew was dead come alive.

- However, that is the effect that Christ has on someone who has come to him for the forgiveness of their sins.
 - The Bible tells us those who were dead in trespasses and sins are quicken or made alive by the Spirit of God.
- Our focus this morning is going to be on the particular event that took place there in **V. 51, “the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom”**
 - Why did God want us to know this?
 - What is the importance of the fact that the veil of the temple was rent in twain at the exact moment that Christ ~~gave~~ yield up the ghost or at the exact moment when his physical life on this earth ended.
- To understand the importance of this event we need to know a little bit about the Holy of Holies and the veil in the temple that the high priest would enter through on the Day of Atonement to get to the Holy of Holies.
- We have to also keep in mind the period of time Christ was on this earth that God was dealing with man under the Old Testament Law.
- The New Testament had not begun yet because Christ was still alive and had not yet been crucified.

- The word of God reminds in **Hebrews 9:16-17**, “**For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.**”
- So, the New Testament did not begin until the Christ died and shed his precious blood.
- So, what this meant was man had to go through another man (a Levitical priest chosen from the tribe of Levi) to deal with his sin problem.

I. HOLY OF HOLIES

- **The veil in the temple divided the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place.**
 - The Holy of Holies represented God’s special Dwelling Place on earth in the midst of His people.
 - The Holy of Holies contained the Ark of the Covenant.
 - In the Ark were –
 - Two Tables of the Law
 - A Golden Pot of Manna
 - Aaron’s Rod that budded.
 - Above the Ark was the Mercy Seat with had two cherubim.

➤ **The Day of Atonement** –

- Once a year on the Day of Atonement the high priest entered through the Veil into the Holy of Holies with the blood of the sin offering.
- He made an atonement for the sins of the nation of Israel.
- He sprinkled the blood before and upon the Mercy Seat, Eastward seven times.

➤ **When the blood of the sin offering was sprinkled upon the Mercy Seat, God saw the blood upon His Law which was beneath the Mercy Seat within the Ark.**

- When God saw the blood then He entered the Holy of Holies and appeared above the Mercy Seat, from between the two Cherubim, which were upon the Ark of the Testimony, in the form of His Shekinah Glory.
- The Shekinah Glory appeared behind the cloud of incense.

II. THE PROBLEM WITH THIS SYSTEM

- Only the high priest had access to the presence of God.
- The high priest had to do the same thing each year.
 - **See Hebrews 9:3,7**
- The blood placed on the mercy seat by the high priest did not take away sin.
 - **See Hebrews 10:3-4**
 - **See Hebrews 10:11**

III. THE RESULTS OF THE RENT VEIL

➤ Ended the Earthly Priesthood.

- We no longer need a high priest to represent us before God.
- We no longer need a high priest to make an atonement for our soul.
- Why?
- Because the Holy Bible tells that Jesus, “**...offered one sacrifice for sins for ever...**” **Heb. 10:12**
- “Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did **once**, when he offered up himself.” **Heb. 9:27**
- “Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in **once** into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.” **Heb. 9:12**
- The Bible tells us that Christ entered the Holy of Holies not on this earth but in the third heaven in the presence of God for us.
 - **See Hebrews 9:23-25.**

➤ We May Now Come Into the Presence of God

- How?
- Through the **Blood of Christ**

- “Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the **blood of Jesus**, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, **his flesh;**”
- Jesus is our only way into the Presence of God!
- When Jesus died for our sins upon the Cross of Calvary, the Veil was rent from top to bottom (torn in two pieces).
- The Veil was rent by God, not by man!
- The Veil was too high for man to reach it.
- The Veil was too thick (four inches thick) for ~~man~~^{man} to tear it.
- It required sixty men to handle it.
- God rent the Veil in the midst (in the temple)!

➤ **We Now Have Direct Access To God Through Christ!**

- There is no longer a wall separating us from God.
- “For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath **broken down the middle wall of partition** between us;” **Eph. 2:14**
- The Veil Rent Completely, speaks of the Completeness of Christ’s Sacrifice.
- Jesus upon Calvary’s cross said, “**It is finished**” **John 19:30**
- The Veil was rent to bring us to God!
 - **See 1 Peter 3:18**
- Jesus fulfilled the Whole Law!
 - **See Matthew 5:17**

- Jesus did what the Law could not do!

- **See Romans 8:2-3**

➤ **Jesus is our One and Only Great High Priest**

- We have him to represents us before God!

Heb. 7:25-26, “Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. For such a high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;”

- **1 Tim. 2:5**, “For there is **one God**, and **one mediator** between God and men, **the man Christ Jesus;**”

Conclusion:

- My friend the good news is that the veil has been rent.
- You no longer have go through another man to have access to God.
- You can go directly into the presence of God through the blood of Christ.
- If you have never come to God for the forgiveness of your sins, won't you come today?
- The veil has been rent , a way has been made open to you individually because of the work Christ did on the cruel cross of Calvary.
- Won't you today, come and bow humbly in the presence of God and ask him to save you from going to a sinner's hell.

- By Believing in your heart that Christ died, he died for your sins, was buried and rose again the third day to pay for your sins and keep you from going to ~~hell~~ ^{hell.}
- The Bible tells ^{vs} in **Romans 10:9-10,13**, “That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”
- If you have never called upon the name of Lord and asked him to save you, won't you do that today.