

Chapter 29 THE VEIL

Matthew 27:51; Mark 15:38; Luke 23:45

“And behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.....”

(Matthew 27:51)

“And Jesus cried out with a loud voice, and breathed His last. Then the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom”

(Mark 15:37-38)

“Then the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn in two.”

(Luke 23:45)

.....

Three times this happening is recorded in Scripture. It is generally understood that when a word is repeated, it is of particular significance.

This curtain, referred to as ‘the veil’, divided the ‘holy place’ from the ‘holy of holies’, into which only the High Priest had access, and that only once a year on the Day of Atonement.

Looking to our opening verses, the hours of the crucifixion were at an end. The last words of Jesus were,

“It is finished”

and *“bowing His head, He gave up His spirit”* (John 19:30). It was at that very moment that the rending of this colossal veil took place, a rending from TOP to bottom.

As we think on this happening, is it not an awe-inspiring and sobering realisation? As the pouring out of the wrath of God on the sins of mankind is borne to completion by the Son, the rending of the veil was an instant and mighty proclamation of the Father that there was no longer a barrier between God and man. This enormous veil was torn apart by the hand of God, declaring

that, through the absolute completeness of the work of the Cross, access to God had been opened up for all mankind; all divisions removed, all believers made one in Christ.

The Father had opened a way to Himself through His beloved Son for you and for me.

*“For by one offering He has **perfected forever** those who are being sanctified” (Hebrews 10:14)*

Therefore, brethren having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which He consecrated for us, through the veil that is, His flesh, and having a High Priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith.....
(Hebrews 10:19-20)

Surely, this is a time to reflect on these words and to gladly give them residence in our hearts.

The veil of separation has been rent and replaced with a ‘new and living way’; the work of the Cross declaring that every believer is

PERFECTED FOREVER

My heart tells me to absorb that absolute truth like the parched earth receives the rain, drinking it in and allowing new growth to come forth, growth in unspeakable joy and thankfulness for this blessed assurance.

Furthermore, we are invited to “*draw near...in full assurance of faith*”. Mathew Henry’s commentary declares, “He had taken away the veil of guilt and wrath which shut us off from relationship with God.

So now, we can each personally accept the invitation given to us in Hebrews 4:16:

“Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

Truly, words of loving assurance!

We, redeemed, fully cleansed by the blood of Christ, can come boldly into sweet communion with the Father with no barrier between – unhindered access

into the Father's presence is ours – and He welcomes us as children, precious in His sight.

The Father's Love provided a way to Himself,; that Way is Jesus.

He wipes the slate clean for He is

*“...able to **save to the uttermost** those who come to God through Him, since He ever lives to make intercession for them”. (Hebrews 7:25)*

Oh the joys of reflecting on the true riches of His word, allowing them to nourish and so strengthen us in the ongoing walk of faith!

You may wish to join in this prayer,

Father, thank You for the love that gives me new life in Christ; may my life be an out flowing of Your love, bringing glory to Your name. Amen