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# Matthew 27:51-56

## “Jesus Opens the Way to God”

### The Veil

#### 1) In the Tabernacle:

- Exo. 26:31a--made of blue, purple, scarlet fabric, and fine linen
- Exo. 26:31b--cherubim on it
- Exo. 26:33--divided the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies, where the ark of the testimony was
- Exo. 40:3, 21--the veil screened the ark
- Lev. 16:2ff.--The high priest could only go behind the veil into the Holy of Holies once a year, or he would die. He could enter with a blood sacrifice on the Day of Atonement, to make atonement for all the sins of Israel (v. 33).

#### 2) In the Temple:

- 2 Chr. 3:14--“He [Solomon] made the veil of violet, purple, crimson and fine linen, and he worked cherubim on it.”

### The Significance of the Torn Veil

- Heb. 6:17-20--“In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose, interposed with an oath,<sup>18</sup> so that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to take hold of the hope set before us.<sup>19</sup> This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a *hope* both sure and steadfast and one which enters within **the veil**,<sup>20</sup> where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”
- Heb. 9:1-3, 11-14--“Now even the first *covenant* had regulations of divine worship and the earthly sanctuary.<sup>2</sup> For there was a tabernacle prepared, the outer one, in which *were* the lampstand and the table and the sacred bread; this is called the holy place.<sup>3</sup> Behind **the second veil** there was a tabernacle which is called the Holy of Holies....<sup>11</sup> But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, *He entered* through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation;<sup>12</sup> and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.<sup>13</sup> For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh,<sup>14</sup> how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”
- Heb. 10:10-12, 18-25--“By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.<sup>11</sup> Every priest stands daily ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins;<sup>12</sup> but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT

HAND OF GOD....<sup>18</sup> Now where there is forgiveness of these things, there is no longer *any* offering for sin.<sup>19</sup> Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus,<sup>20</sup> by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through **the veil**, that is, His flesh,<sup>21</sup> and since *we have* a great priest over the house of God,<sup>22</sup> let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled *clean* from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.<sup>23</sup> Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful;<sup>24</sup> and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds,<sup>25</sup> not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.”

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#### LIFE LESSON:

**Jesus' death and resurrection opened the way for sinful man to enter the presence of a holy God.**