

Christ Jesus Revealed by the Rent Vail

I have preached, in times past, that the vail of the temple being rent in twain gave us direct access to God. I ask myself and you if that statement is true? To arrive at an answer we must first understand what a priest is and what a priest does.

Priests are taken from among men to represent men before God. **Heb 5:1 For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins:** All priest made offerings but only the high priest went behind the vail.

Priest act as a mediator between God and man. **Heb 5:1 For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins: 2 Who can have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way; for that he himself also is compassed with infirmity. 3 And by reason hereof he ought, as for the people, so also for himself, to offer for sins.**

God choses the high priest to fill the office: **Heb 5:4 And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron.**

Heb 5:5 So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee. 6 As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec. 7 Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; 8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; 9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; 10 Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec.

From this text we see that Christ did not come incarnate to be High Priest (verse 6 says He is a Priest forever) but rather the sacrifice.

However, now Christ is our High Priest in heaven. **Heb 8:1 Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; 2 A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man. 3 For every high priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices: wherefore it is of necessity that this man have somewhat also to offer.**

What about the vail of the temple being rent in twain? What does it reveal? Does it give us direct access to God? Let's look at the purpose of the vail to get an answer.

2Co 3:12 Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech: 13 And not as Moses, which put a vail over his face, that the children of Israel could not steadfastly look to the end of that which is abolished: 14 But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ. 15 But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart. 16 Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away. 17 Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. 18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

We notice here that the vail is still untaken away for those who are depending on the ritual of religion to save them from their sins. In this text we see that the removal of the vail reveals the glory of the Lord. Understand that we cannot see Christ incarnate for He is not incarnate now having already ascended back to the Father thus we are "**18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord**" "As in a glass" means to see in a mirror or see a reflection. What has that to do with us? What did Christ pray for? **Joh 17:5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.** Thus we see behind the rent vail the reflected image of the Lord Jesus Christ. and the glory of salvation by grace.

Heb 9:11 But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; 12 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.

We see that the earthly tabernacle was only an image, reflection in a mirror, of that which is eternal in the heaven.

Heb 10:19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, Did you notice that the boldness to enter into the holiest was by the blood of Jesus. We enter into the holiest place how? By the vail being rent and by "**Heb 10:20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; 21 And having an high priest over the house of God; 22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. 23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)**"

How is it a new and living way? It is new, in that we no longer have to shed blood for the remission of sins. It is living because our High Priest, Jesus Christ, made that sacrifice and blood offering once for all. **Heb 9:24 For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: 25 Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; 26 For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.**

Again, what did the rent vail reveal? It revealed to us that the only true sacrifice for sin, the blood offering of Jesus Christ, has already been made and we no longer have to do that. What was in the holiest of holy place? The ark of God, which was the image of our Saviour and Lord Jesus Christ, and the prophetic picture of the incarnation of Jesus Christ, and the finished work that he would accomplish. Therefore, when we look or enter into the holiest of holy place, we see Jesus Christ revealed, through whom we have access to God the Father.

What did Jesus tell us in: **Joh 16:23 And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. 24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full. 25 These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father. 26 At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you: 27 For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God. 28 I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father.**

Seeing then that we must pray in the name of Jesus to God the Father, do we really have direct access to God the Father? Consider also: **Joh 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

Do you now see and understand that the vail being rent was to allow us to see the way of salvation by grace? **Ac 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.** If we do not see Jesus first we cannot see God the Father, because Jesus is the opened door, the rent vail, by which we will enter into the eternal abode He has gone to prepare for us and there we shall behold God the Son, our High Priest, and God the Father and dwell in His presence forever. Praise the Lord! Hallelujah! For the revelation of our High Priest.

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