

Discussion Questions

April 9, 2023



The Veil is Torn

1. Read Leviticus 16:1-22
(If there is time, also read Leviticus 21:16-23)
 - Summarize the steps required to address the sins of the people.
 - Discuss what it would be like to witness this, or be the high priest doing this.
 - What would this annual process instill in the hearts of the Israelites about God? About themselves? (discuss both sides)
2. Read Mark 15:33-38
 - Discuss the significance of tearing of the veil from top to bottom.
3. Read Hebrews 10:10-14 & 19-22
 - Summarize these passages in your own words.
 - Using verses 19-21 and your own thoughts, discuss what it looks like for us today to boldly enter into the Most Holy Place.
4. In what ways do we as Christians avoid this kind of relationship with God? Share an example of where, even as a Christian, you have lived in what felt like distance from God and where you have lived "behind the veil".
5. Read John 10:10 & John 17:3
 - In light of the torn veil and these passages, discuss the kind of life that God is longing for us to have as His children. Give specific examples.
6. Pray and ask the Lord where we need realignment in our lives.

John 13:34-35 (NLT)

So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.

Mark 15:22-39 (NLT)

And they brought Jesus to a place called Golgotha (which means "Place of the Skull")... Then the soldiers nailed him to the cross. They divided his clothes and threw dice to decide who would get each piece. It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. A sign announced the charge against him. It read, "The King of the Jews." Two revolutionaries were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left.

The people passing by shouted abuse, shaking their heads in mockery. "Ha! Look at you now!" they yelled at him. "You said you were going to destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days. Well then, save yourself and come down from the cross!" The leading priests and teachers of religious law also mocked Jesus. "He saved others," they scoffed, "but he can't save himself! Let this Messiah, this King of Israel, come down from the cross so we can see it and believe him!" Even the men who were crucified with Jesus ridiculed him.

At noon, darkness fell across the whole land until three o'clock. Then at three o'clock Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?" Then Jesus uttered another loud cry and breathed his last.

And the curtain in the sanctuary of the Temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. When the Roman officer who stood facing him saw how he had died, he exclaimed, "This man truly was the Son of God!"

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NLT)

For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

John 17:20-21 (NLT)

I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one - as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me.

Hebrews 10:10-22 (NLT)

For God's will was for us to be made holy by the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all time. Under the old covenant, the priest stands and ministers before the altar day after day, offering the same sacrifices again and again, which can never take away sins. But our High Priest [Jesus] offered himself to God as a single sacrifice for sins, good for all time...For by that one offering he forever made perfect those who are being made holy.

And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place. And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God's house, let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water.

John 10:10 (NIV)

I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

Hebrews 10:19-22 (NIV)

We can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place... let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts...

John 17:3 (NIV)

Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

Hebrews 4:14,16 (CSB)

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens—Jesus the Son of God... Therefore, let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need.