

JESUS' CRUCIFIXION
PART 4: ITS IMMEDIATE EFFECT
(Matthew 27:51-53)

- I. Proclamation of FULL ACCESS (Matt. 27:51a; Mk. 15:38; Lk. 23:45a)
 - A. The Temple VEIL had PREVENTED direct ACCESS to God (cf. Exo. 26:31-33; 36:35)
 1. It was THICKLY WOVEN in three COLORS
 - a. Each color was probably an INDEPENDENT LAYER
 - b. They were interlocked with EMBROIDERED figures of CHERUBIM
 2. It separated the HOLY PLACE from the HOLIEST PLACE
 - a. Behind it was the ARK of the COVENANT, surmounted by the MERCY SEAT
 - b. It had no NATURAL source of ILLUMINATION
 3. Only the HIGH PRIEST could enter
 - a. He entered only on the DAY OF ATONEMENT
 - b. He entered only to apply the BLOOD of the SACRIFICE to the MERCY SEAT
 - B. The Temple vail was TORN from TOP to BOTTOM

1. Jesus' death REMOVED the veil separating HUMANITY from GOD
(Heb. 4:16; 6:19-20; 9:11-28; 10:19-23)
2. Jesus' death made the PRIESTHOOD and the SACRIFICES obsolete
(Heb. 10:9b-10, 12, 14)

II. Demonstration of DIVINE JUDGMENT (Matt. 27:52b)

- A. A ROCK-SPLITTING earthquake was associated with the PRESENCE of God
(Ex. 19:18; 1 Kings 19:11)
- B. Earthquakes were also associated with the JUDGMENT of God (2 Sam. 22:8;
Ps. 18:7; Isa. 29:6; Jer. 10:10; cf. Rev. 6:13-14)

III. Anticipation of COMING GLORY (Matt. 27:52-53)

- A. The earthquake OPENED GRAVES
- B. Many SAINTS were RAISED, entering Jerusalem and APPEARING to many
AFTER Jesus' RESURRECTION
 1. They were OT SAINTS
 2. They were probably in GLORIFIED BODIES