

## REMOVING THE VEIL

Heb. 10:19    Rev. 4:11

**Intro:** Every person has at one time or another explored the thought of "why am I here?" "What is life all about?" and so on. Long ago in an early education school book a question was asked of its' students: "**What is the chief End of Man?**" And the answer was: "**Man's chief End is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.**" That answer has not changed!

### I. GOD FORMED US FOR HIS PLEASURE

- He meant for us to see Him and live with Him and draw our life from His presence.
- However, we have broken with God. We no longer obey Him or love Him and in guilt and fear have fled as far as possible from His Presence.
- But, who can flee from His Presence? God is everywhere.....yet.....
  - **His manifest presence, His intimate presence, His personal presence is another thing .**
- Moses realized it, Isaiah understood it, Peter shrank away crying "*depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord.*"

### II. THE WHOLE WORK OF REDEMPTION IS TO UNDO THAT WHICH SEPARATED US

- Our sins must be disposed of satisfactorily - a full reconciliation must be accomplished in order for us to return to conscious communion with God and to live in His **intimate, personal** presence.
- God takes the first step - then our hearts begin to feel a yearning for more of His presence.
- The journey of the soul from the separated life into the enjoyed presence of God is illustrated for us in the O.T. tabernacle:
  - The returning sinner first entered into the outer court, offered a blood sacrifice on the brazen alter, washed himself in the laver nearby.
  - He passed through a veil into the holy place where no outside, natural light could come, lit only by the golden candlestick (Jesus the Light of the World), also there was the table of shew bread (Jesus, the bread of life), and the altar of incense (unceasing prayer).
  - Though much had been enjoyed and was beautiful, still he had not entered into the Presence of God. **Another veil separated him** from the Holy of Holies where above the Mercy seat dwelt the very God Himself in awful and glorious manifestation. **Only the high priest could enter there, and that but once a year, with blood which he offered for sins and the sins of the people.**
  - **It was this last veil which was rent when our Lord gave up His life on Calvary**, and the rending of this veil opened the way for every worshipper in the world to come by the new and living way straight into the divine presence of God Himself.
- **Today, we no longer pause in fear to enter the Holy of Holies. God wants us to push on into His immediate, intimate, personal Presence and live our entire lives there.**
- Without the presence of God in the Holy of Holies, all the ceremonies and observances were nothing more than just what they were. **God's Immediate Presence was what it was all about.**

### III. THE WORLD AND THE CHURCH ARE PERISHING FOR LACK OF THE PRESENCE OF GOD

- The instant cure for most religious and world ills would be to enter into the immediate, personal presence of God.
  - God is eternal (no past, no future) - He is immutable (unchangeable) - He is omniscient (knows all) He is love, mercy, righteous, and holy.
  - God is so vastly wonderful, so utterly and completely delightful that He can without anything other than Himself, meet and overflow the deepest demands of our total nature.
  - The difference between the prophet and all others is that the prophet has been in the immediate, intimate, personal presence of God and all others just read about their experiences.
  - **We need more prophets! People who live every day in the immediate, intimate, personal presence of God!**
  - With the veil removed by the death of God's Son, with nothing on God's side to prevent us from entering, why do we all stay outside the Holy of Holies? Why are we content to stay all the days of our lives in the outer court, never looking upon God? What hinders us?

### IV. THERE IS ANOTHER VEIL

- There is the presence of a veil in our hearts. It is patched, repaired, tattered, but nonetheless there.
- **The veil is made up of the SELF-SINS of our human nature:**
  - **self-righteousness...self-pity...self-confidence...self-sufficiency...self-admiration...self-love... and a hundred other self-sins.**
  - Like the window behind you, made up of many panels, so is there a veil in our lives self-constructed but successfully keeps God's intimate, immediate, personal presence out.
- We are content to stay in the outer courts (building, services, etc.....) busying ourselves with religious rituals and sound good deeds...but never actually entering into the actual intimate, immediate, personal presence of God.
- **We cannot remove the veil**, no matter how hard we try..no more than we can remove cancer from our own bodies.
- Only God and the Cross can remove that which is between us and the immediate presence of God. We say we want that, but do we?
  - **Jesus said that if our eye causes us to sin to dig it out...if our hand causes us to sin, cut it off.**  
Would you really do that? Afraid not! A figure of speech? Afraid not!

### CONCLUSION:

- If you want to be rid of that veil between you and God's presence, the you must confess, forsake, repudiate the self-life and ask the Lord to tear it down. **It will be extremely painful! The cross is death! But after death comes LIFE.**

**"Lord, how excellent are Thy ways, and how devious and dark are the ways of man. Show us how to die, that we may rise again to newness of life. Rend the veil of our self-life from the top down as Thou didst rend the veil of the Temple. We would draw near in full assurance of faith. We would dwell with Thee in daily experience here on this earth so that we may be accustomed to the glory when we enter Thy heaven to dwell with Thee there. In Jesus' Name, Amen."**