

The Veil

2 Corinthians 3:5-18

Introduction:

- A. The Wiccan website gives their belief about Halloween
1. It is one of two nights out of the year in which the veil that separates the natural world from the spiritual world is l_____
 2. It is a time for people to communicate to d_____ loved ones.
 3. It is a time to s_____ the Dark Mysteries and honor the Dark Mother and the Dark Father.
 4. It originated from the Celts who practiced putting out f_____ offerings for the wandering dead.
 5. It is also a night of chaos, where the Wee Folke pull p_____ on unsuspecting people. The early church adopted practices to scare away these spirits which they deemed as evil.
- B. The truth: there is a veil that exists:

Having therefore such a hope, we use great boldness in *our* speech, and *are* not as Moses, *who* used to put a **veil** over his face that the sons of Israel might not look intently at the end of what was fading away. But their minds were hardened; for until this very day at the reading of the old covenant the **same veil** remains unlifted, because it is removed in Christ. But to this day whenever Moses is read, a **veil** lies over their heart. (2 Cor 3:12-15; NAS).

The symbolic veil (v. 12)

- A. Why did Moses put a veil over his face? (see Ex 33 and 34)
1. The situation:
 - a. Moses was receiving from God words of the c_____ that was to be made between the Lord and the people.
 - b. He asked God if he could see His f_____, but God said that one could see it and live.
 - c. God allowed Moses to see His b_____ and so caught a reflection of God's glory.
 - d. God's glory caused Moses' face to s_____ brightly which scared the people.
 2. The solution: Moses put a veil over his face as he presented the covenant to the people.

- B. Under the Old Covenant a t_____ was constructed according to God's dimensions.
1. A veil was to be made and hung to b_____ the entrance to the inner sanctuary known as the Holy of Holies where the glory of God would appear from time to time.
 2. This m_____ temple was packed up and moved to wherever the people of Israel went.
- C. The Lord had King S_____ build a temple in Jerusalem according to similar design as the tabernacle (1 Kg 5:5 and chapter 6).
- a. The temple was d_____ 360 years later and then rebuilt 82 years after that.
 - b. In 20 B.C., King Herod the Great ordered that the temple be expanded and upgraded which took _____ years (Josephus; Jn 2:20).
 - c. According to the Mishnah (a Jewish writing documenting oral tradition of the Jews), the temple veil measured 60 feet high, 30 feet wide, and had the thickness of a man's p_____ .
- D. The veil was symbolic of the separation between God and mankind due to mankind's s_____ .

The spiritual veil (v. 15)

- A. The spiritual reality is that a veil lies over the h_____ of all unbelievers.
1. Reading Moses did not l_____ the veil from the heart of the Jews.
 2. 2 Cor 4:3,4 states that the gospel is veiled to unbelievers whom Satan has blinded so that they cannot see the l_____ of the gospel of the glory of Christ.
- B. There are many religious people who don't realize that a veil lies over their heart keeping them separated from God.
1. The Pharisees thought they could spiritually s_____ but were in reality spiritually blind (Jn 9:39-41).
 2. Doing religious things, though they be good things, does not remove the veil because salvation from our sin is not by w_____ (Eph 2:8,9)

The solution that removes the veil (v. 16)

- A. When a person t_____ to the Lord, the veil is removed.
 - 1. This requires a person to change d_____
 - 2. The turning is repenting from sin and trusting in Christ to be your God and Savior.
- B. Jesus purposely went to the cross to pay the r_____ for the sins of those who trust Him (Matt 20:28)
 - 1. He cried out on the cross that the Father had _____ Him (He was paying the price for our sin) – Matt 27:46
 - 2. He cried out that it was f_____ (the payment was complete) – Jn 19:30
- C. The veil of the temple was torn from t_____ to b_____ (Matt 27:51)
 - 1. This was not a n_____ tear due to overuse by priests (remember the veil was 60 feet high).
 - 2. This was a supernatural phenomenon communicating a symbolic message that the veil separating one from God is removed only in C_____.
 - 3. The resurrection of Jesus p_____ that Jesus' sin payment was successful.

Conclusion

- A. Obsess over the d_____ of Christ (Jn 3:16; 17:3)
- B. Obsess over the m_____ of Christ that ONLY in Him can the veil be removed.
- C. A Halloween opportunity: give out the Eternal Life Tract

Halloween is celebrated by witches across the world as a night when one has the best chance to connect to the spirit world. But here is a gift, should you accept it, where one person from the spirit world will connect with you.