

## Doctrine of the Veil

### The Veil of the Tabernacle

1. A veil was used in the wilderness Tabernacle to separate the Holy of Holies (the Most Holy Place) from the Holy Place.
2. It was called the second veil because it concealed the most holy place of all.
  - *Hebrews 9:3 And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all;*
3. The ordinances prescribing the veil were very precise.
  - *Exodus 26:31 And thou shalt make a veil of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen of cunning work: with cherubims shall it be made: 32 And thou shalt hang it upon four pillars of shittim wood overlaid with gold: their hooks shall be of gold, upon the four sockets of silver. 33 And thou shalt hang up the veil under the taches, that thou mayest bring in thither within the veil the ark of the testimony: and the veil shall divide unto you between the holy place and the most holy.*
  - *Exodus 26:31 [Inside the Tabernacle], make a curtain from fine linen, with blue, purple, and scarlet Guardian Angels embroidered into the cloth. 32 Hang this curtain on gold hooks set into four pillars made from acacia wood overlaid with gold. The pillars are to be set in silver bases. 33 Behind this curtain place the Ark containing the stone tablets engraved with God's laws. The curtain will separate the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place. 34 "Now install the mercy place-the golden lid of the Ark-in the Most Holy Place. 35 Place the table and lampstand across the room from each other on the outer side of the veil, the lampstand on the south and the table on the north. 36 "As a screen for the door of the sacred tent, make another curtain from fine linen, skillfully embroidered in blue, purple, and scarlet. 37 Hang this curtain on gold hooks set into posts made from acacia wood overlaid with gold. The posts are to rest on bronze bases" (Today's Living Bible).*
4. The veil was ordained to be made by Bezaleel and Aholiab.
  - *Exodus 36:1 Then wrought Bezaleel and Aholiab, and every wise hearted man, in whom the Lord put wisdom and understanding to know how to work all manner of work for the service of the sanctuary, according to all that the Lord had commanded....35 And he made a veil of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen: with cherubims made he it of cunning work. 36 And he made thereunto four pillars of shittim wood, and overlaid them with gold: their hooks were of gold; and he cast for them four sockets of silver.*
5. Only a few facts are known about Bezalel (bez'a-lel)
  - His name means "*in the shadow [protection] of God*".
  - He was the divinely chosen craftsman entrusted with the design and construction of the Tabernacle and its furniture in the wilderness.

- He was the son of Uri, of the Tribe of Judah, the son of Hur.

*Exodus 31:2 See, I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah: 3 And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, 4 To devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, 5 And in cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of timber, to work in all manner of workmanship. 6 And I, behold, I have given with him Aholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan: and in the hearts of all that are wise hearted I have put wisdom, that they may make all that I have commanded thee; 7 The tabernacle of the congregation, and the ark of the testimony, and the mercy seat that is thereupon, and all the furniture of the tabernacle, 8 And the table and his furniture, and the pure candlestick with all his furniture, and the altar of incense, 9 And the altar of burnt offering with all his furniture, and the laver and his foot, 10 And the cloths of service, and the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and the garments of his sons, to minister in the priest's office, 11 And the anointing oil, and sweet incense for the holy place: according to all that I have commanded thee shall they do.*

*Exodus 35:30 And Moses said unto the children of Israel, See, the Lord hath called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah;*

*Exodus 38:22 And Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, made all that the Lord commanded Moses.*

### ***Special Note***

Hur was married to Miriam the sister of Moses according to Josephus, the Jewish historian.

- He lived c. 1440 BC
6. Concerning Aholiab, the following few facts are known.
- Oho'liab (oho'li-ab, Aholiab) means, "*tent of his father*".
  - He was the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan.
  - Like Bezaleel, Aholiab was an expert workman in precious metals and other materials and so was appointed to superintend the preparation of such articles for the Tabernacle.

*Exodus 31:6 And I, behold, I have given with him Aholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan: and in the hearts of all that are wise hearted I have put wisdom, that they may make all that I have commanded thee;*

*Exodus 35:34 And he hath put in his heart that he may teach, both he, and Aholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan.*

*Exodus 36:1 Then wrought Bezaleel and Aholiab, and every wise hearted man, in whom the Lord put wisdom and understanding to know how to work all manner of work for the service of the sanctuary, according to all that the Lord had commanded. 2 And Moses called Bezaleel and Aholiab, and every wise hearted man, in whose heart the Lord had put wisdom, even every one whose heart stirred him up to come unto the work to do it:*

*Exodus 38:23 And with him was Aholiab, son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan, an engraver, and a cunning workman, and an embroiderer in blue, and in purple, and in scarlet, and fine linen.*

- He lived c. 1440 BC
7. The veil that Bezelel and Aholiab made covered the Ark of the Covenant.
  8. Later, when the Temple of Solomon was constructed there was a veil inside the structure patterned after the Wilderness Tabernacle veil.
  9. In pictorial language the veil was intended to speak of the flesh of Jesus Christ.
    - *Hebrews 10:20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;*
  10. At the death of Christ the veil was torn from the top to the bottom.
    - *Matthew 27:51 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;*
    - *Mark 15:38 And the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom.*
    - *Luke 23:45 And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst.*
  11. Today, by faith believers are invited to enter behind the veil into the Most Holy Place.
    - *Hebrews 6:19 Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil;*
  12. For the New Testament believer the spiritual purpose of entering behind the veil indicates the following truths.
    - The believer has free and open access to God the Father. There are no barriers between God and man. Jesus predicted that this would happen when He spoke to the woman of Samaria. *John 4:20 Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship. 21 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. 22 Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.*

23 *But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. 24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.*

- There is no more blood to be offered prior to approaching the Father, for the Mercy Seat is permanently sprinkled with the blood of Christ that was offered once and for all. *Heb 7:27 Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself.*
13. There is no need for a specialized priesthood to make men acceptable to God. Every believer is a priest unto the Lord.
- *Revelation 1:6 And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.*
14. The torn veil indicates that there will never again be a return to sacrifices and offerings as an acceptable form of worship to God.
- *Romans 10:4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.*
  - *Heb 10:12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;*

### **The Veil of the Teacher and Lawgiver: Moses**

15. Turning from the Tabernacle, attention is called to the fact that Moses wore a veil on his face when he talked with the people of Israel.
- *Exodus 34:33 And till Moses had done speaking with them, he put a veil on his face.*
  - The veil became a part of his daily dress and was put off on only two occasions.
    - when He was alone with God and
    - when He had a special message for the children of Israel from God.
  - *Exodus 34:34 But when Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he took the veil off, until he came out. And he came out, and spake unto the children of Israel that which he was commanded. 35 And the children of Israel saw the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face shone: and Moses put the veil upon his face again, until he went in to speak with him.*
16. The purpose for the veil was so that the Israelites could not see “*the end of that which is abolished*” or “*the end of that which was passing away.*”

- *2 Corinthians 3:13 And not as Moses, which put a vail over his face, that the children of Israel could not stedfastly look to the end of that which is abolished:*

17. The veil of Moses, like the veil in the Tabernacle he was so closely identified with, spoke of three great truths.

- The veiled glory of Christ in the Old Covenant is in contrast to the unveiled glory of Christ in the New Covenant. The full and majestic display of God's glory is to be witnessed in the New Testament period.
- The veil of Moses, like the veil of the Tabernacle, spoke of the spiritual blindness in the hearts of many Hebrews even to this day. *2 Corinthians 3:14 But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same veil untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which veil is done away in Christ. 15 But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the veil is upon their heart. 16 Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the veil shall be taken away.*
- In the end, the veil of Moses was taken away as he went up to glory, just as the veil of the Tabernacle was done away with when Jesus went up to glory. Because the veil is gone, every believer is in the process of being changed into the image of the Lord through the new seed (life) that has been implanted into the soul. *2 Corinthians 3:18 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. 1 John 3:9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.*

### ***Conclusion***

Here is great encouragement to pray. There is no veil! There is only a free access to God through the "veil", through Christ, as we behold His glory and enter into the same in a way the believers under the Old Covenant never could.