

Pastor Jeremy M. Thomas
Fredericksburg Bible Church
107 East Austin
Fredericksburg, Texas 78624
830-997-8834 jthomas@fbgbible.org

**C0708 – February 28, 2007 – Ex 29:38-46 – "That I May Dwell With
Them"**

Question: What happened to the veil that was torn from top to bottom when Jesus was crucified?

Answer: I researched about 20 commentaries on Matt 27:51 which mentions this event and didn't find a thing. Josephus mentions and describes the veil but not what happened to it after it was torn. Edersheim, in his book *The Temple*, mentions that the rabbis said there were two veils that separated the Holy from the Most Holy Place in which case if one were torn one would have remained. I searched the internet and didn't find any answers though they may be out there. I called Dave Olander, one of my seminary professors who likes to think of himself as a token Jew. He said the rabbis would most certainly have disposed of it. No evidence has been discovered as to what happened to it. What I do know is that there was a veil there in 70AD. When Titus destroyed the Temple in 70AD he tore it down and wrapped all the precious articles in it and took them back to Rome in the veil. I don't know what happened to that veil after that. The truth is that when the Temple was destroyed everything was destroyed. There's actually been only one historical find of a very small piece from the 2nd Temple. I saw it in the Israeli Museum last summer (2006). You have to take into account that the Temple Mount has not been under Jewish control since 586BC and it has been under several Muslim and Crusader regimes. They've been all throughout the Temple Mount. If there are any artifacts to be found they are deep within the Temple Mount where there is a complex network of caves. The Muslims have been excavating for some time on the SE corner but if they find any Jewish stuff I'm sure they destroy it. They are not interested in it and would rather erase any remnant of Jewish history. They've been driving truckloads of things to the dump and Jewish archaeologists run behind them and sift through the

remains. As far as I know they haven't found a thing. Since we're on archaeology don't ever believe what the media says about these ancient finds. None of them have been valid so far. Besides, the real scholars don't say anything until much later when it has been studied in depth which may take several months or years. The James ossuary found several years ago was accidentally dropped and broken. When it broke it was found to be a fake as are all the other proclaimed shrouds, the bones of Jesus and his family most recently (of course you wouldn't find these), etc...Simple fact is God didn't leave much behind. If anything shows up it will be when the Jews have full access to dig on the Temple Mount and that could be as late as when the Anti-Christ gives them full authority over it. We won't be around for that so don't expect there to be any great finds. If they are there they are deep in the Temple Mount and there is no doubt there could be things there. Okay, enough about the 2nd Temple veil and other relics, let's turn to back to the Tabernacle and the priesthood.

“Let them construct a sanctuary for Me, that I may dwell among them.”

Exodus 25:8

h. Daily Sacrifices (29:38-42)

God shifts here from the *ordination procedures* used to induct Aaron and his sons into the Aaronic priesthood so they could serve in God's sanctuary, the Tabernacle, to the *daily procedures* the Aaronic priests will carry out in God's sanctuary, the Tabernacle.

Exodus 29:38-42 “Now this is what you shall offer on the altar: two one year old lambs each day, continuously. ³⁹“The one lamb you shall offer in the morning and the other lamb you shall offer at twilight; ⁴⁰and there *shall be one-tenth of an ephah* of fine flour mixed with one-fourth of a hin of beaten oil, and one-fourth of a hin of wine for a drink offering with one lamb. ⁴¹“The other lamb you shall offer at twilight, and shall offer with it the same grain offering and the same drink offering as in the morning, for a soothing aroma, an offering by fire to the LORD. ⁴²“It shall be a continual burnt offering throughout your generations at the doorway of the tent of meeting before the LORD, where I will meet with you, to speak to you there.”

Verse 38, the daily sacrifice will consist of **two one year old lambs each day**, that's 708 **lambs** each year. They were offered **on the** bronze **altar** in the Tabernacle courtyard. One **lamb** was offered **in the morning and the other at twilight**. The word **twilight** literally means "between the two evenings" and may refer to the time when the sun goes down to when the stars are visible. These were the same times the high priest would enter the tabernacle and attend to the *menorah* to make sure its wicks were trimmed and burning as well as the *incense altar* to make sure there was incense (Exod 30:7-8).

Along with the **lamb offering** they would offer a **grain offering** both in the morning and the evening. The **grain offering** is described in verse 40 and was a mixture of flour and olive oil. The volume of flour was **one-tenth ephah** which is a dry measure of about two liters. This was **fine flour** which was ground solely from the inner kernels of the wheat and was considered a luxury item. It was very expensive and used only when entertaining special guests. YHWH was Israel's special guest. The volume of olive oil was **one-fourth of a hin** which was about 4 cups of **beaten oil**. The **beaten oil** was the purest oil and was also burned in the *menorah*. YHWH was served only the finest.

Along with the **lamb offering** they would also offer a **drink offering** both in the morning and the evening. The **drink offering** is also described in verse 40 and was **wine**. Of course it would be the finest wine. When it was offered it was **for a soothing aroma**. It pleased the Lord. Just as these sacrifices pleased the Lord so the Lord was pleased to crush Jesus Christ (Isa 53:10) for He was the sacrifice that was once-for-all. The Lord saw it and was satisfied and by it Christ gains the right to justify all who believe in Him (Isa 53:11).

Together the daily offerings were like a meal, composed of items familiar at the dinner table each day. It was offered twice a day as a continual reminder that for Israel to live something must die in her place. That something was a **lamb** to point forward to the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. The **lamb** is an adequate symbol of Jesus Christ. He was, like a lamb led to the slaughter, silent (Isa 53:7-8).

PRINCIPLE: Every time we eat meat we should remember that someone had to die in our place so we can live. It is probably unfortunate that our society is so separated from meat preparation. In ancient Israel it was a bloody process and continual reminder of this sobering truth. Your life is continually being substituted for. I am often discovering new ways our daily activities teach us about the Christian life. Meat eating reminds us of the substitutionary death of Jesus Christ. Washing our hands reminds us of daily confession of sin by which we are cleansed. Picking weeds in the garden reminds us of all the sin that keeps popping up in our lives. Taking a shower or bath reminds us of our regeneration, that we were washed. Every day we are being confronted with spiritual truths. This is not by accident. This is by design. God designed men to be constantly confronted by Him. One reason people forbid meat eating is because it is too confrontational (1 Tim 4:3). The HVP mind detests face to face confrontation with God and eating meat is as face-to-face as you can get. It is too apparent that something had to die in his place to sustain your life. So, some forbid it.

i. The Dwelling of God (29:43-46)

This is a kind of summary of the main theme so far. All that has been described to Moses is necessary so God can dwell among the sons of Israel and be their God. All things must be built precisely according to the pattern Moses saw while on the mountain and the priests must be ordained for the ministry and then the Shechinah Glory can descend and dwell as a cloud by day and a fire by night. His presence at night would illuminate the camp of the Israelites.

Exodus 29:43-46 “I will meet there with the sons of Israel, and it shall be consecrated by My glory. ⁴⁴“I will consecrate the tent of meeting and the altar; I will also consecrate Aaron and his sons to minister as priests to Me. ⁴⁵“I will dwell among the sons of Israel and will be their God. ⁴⁶“They shall know that I am the LORD their God who brought them out of the land of Egypt, that I might dwell among them; I am the LORD their God.

Verse 43. **I will meet there**, that is, in the **tent of meeting, with the sons of Israel, and it shall be consecrated by My glory**, that is, the Shechinah Glory which is a visible manifestation of God. This happens in chapter 40:34-

38. Shechinah is not God Himself because even the highest heaven cannot contain God. God is omnipresent. But Shechinah is a visible manifestation of the glory of God. It was a visible assurance to Israel that God was in their presence, He was with them. They were His people and He was their God. The Shechinah Glory would also **consecrate Aaron and his sons to minister as priests to Me**. The **priests** represented Israel before God. Both the **tent of meeting and the altar and the priests** were set apart for His purposes. By means of the Shechinah Glory they would **know** for certain **that He is the Lord their God who brought them out of the land of Egypt**. He had done this great thing for them, taking them out from under the chains of bondage and setting them free. The movement from being an unsaved to saved is the movement from slavery to freedom. Many people don't want to believe in Christ because they think they will be hindered from their freedom. They have failed to realize a fundamental truth of the universe. Freedom is only found in Christ. Unbelievers are really in a horrible position because they think they are free but they are actually enslaved. They are enslaved to Satan. Unbelievers are just like the Israelites before the Exodus who turned against Moses and Aaron for trying to set them free (Exod 5:20-21). They did not understand. True freedom comes only by faith in Christ and more freedom can be enjoyed by continuing in His word. As Jesus said, "to those Jews who had believed in Him, if you continue in my word you are truly my disciples and you shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free" (John 8:31-32). Freedom comes only from knowing the truth. As long as America rejects the truth she will become further and further enslaved. And we live in an enslaved culture. However, if you, as an individual believer, continue in His word then you will know the truth and become like Paul who was free indeed, even though in prison. It did not matter what his circumstances might be, inside he was a free man and he was able to give God the glory. We need more Paul's today who realize that favorable circumstances do not mean freedom. The truth inside your mind is what results in freedom. No one can take that away from you. Living according to the Bible will not result in unhappiness or less fun. It will actually result in the greatest possible enjoyment of life. What you have to understand is that God created a form and when we live within that form we enjoy freedom. To learn the shape of the form we have to learn the word of God. When we live in the form there is freedom and balance in our lives. Many think that freedom is doing what I want to do but it is actually doing what God says to do. God has revealed the form and we should strive to live

within that form. Within the form is maximum freedom. It is an astonishing and sad fact that American's are ignorant of what true freedom is. If we, as a nation, are ever going to enjoy external freedom we will first have to re-discover what internal freedom is all about. But I don't think that is going to happen. I think we are on our way toward increased slavery.

God set the Israelites free from Egypt and notice the purpose clause in the middle of verse 46. Why did God bring them out of the land of Egypt? So **that** He could **dwell among them**. This is the purpose of the Exodus. God brought them out of the land of Egypt so He could dwell among them. This is the same purpose He brought you and I out of the world system. So He could dwell in us by His Spirit. You are the temple of God. He did not call you out of the world system so you could continue to live according to the world system. He called you out to live a new way in His presence. Thus He called Israel out of Egypt, to live a new way in His presence.

Let's review this. Remember, Egypt signified the world system which was under the dominion of Pharaoh who personified Satan. Israel was in bondage to the world system so God brought all Israel who appropriated God's promise by faith out of Egypt on the night of the Exodus. He did this so He could **dwell among them**. He did this so He could tabernacle among them. For, he says **I am the Lord their God**. YHWH is their God because of His promises to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. He set them apart as His own people and became **their God**. If He is **their God** and God is a person this explains why He would want to **dwell among them**. God is interested in personal relationships with His people. He wants to be close to us and He wants us to enjoy intimate fellowship with Him. So, this is really an amazing portrait of God's desire to commune with His people in history. You need to think of the OT like a coloring book. Its stories that paint pictures. It's easy to see. I always find it crazy that Christians tell new believers to read the gospel of Mark or some NT epistle. They are *brephos*, infants in the word of God! What they need is pictures so they can see God. The NT is not pictures, its advanced concepts, heady stuff that builds on those pictures. What a child needs isn't Calculus, he needs coloring books. He needs to build up to Calculus. Send new believers to the OT, let them see God in pictures. Don't send them to the NT, they're going to be very confused if you do that. Besides, the Holy Spirit is a master teacher and where did He start? With Genesis, with pictures of God at work. Now, Exodus is just that, a Book of pictures, the

Bondage (man is a slave), the Exodus (God is a Savior), Mt Sinai (God reveals the standard of living), the Tabernacle (God is holy and to be worshipped), picture...picture...picture...look at Me. Get a glimpse of Me! God can paint marvelous pictures with words. Here He's showing Israel I want to commune with you and be worshipped. I'm holy and you're sinners but I'm making a way.

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