

Matthew 27:51-56

Testify: "The Son of God!"

See the Light ...

- I. Look! In the Temple!
- II. Feel the Earth Quake
- III. See the Rocks Split
- IV. Behold the Graves Open
- V. Witness the Dead Rise
- VI. Hear the Centurion Testify
- VII. Listen to the Women Mourn

... and testify.

Children, Listen ...

1. What happened in the Temple when Jesus died?
2. What other sign did God send to earth at that time?
3. What happened to some of the saints who had died?
4. What did the centurion (Roman soldier) say about Jesus?

Signs of Life

The darkness disperses when Jesus commends His soul to the Father and dies. Light reveals the Savior hanging lifeless on the cross. But amidst the morbid scene there are extraordinary signs of life. The torn curtain in the temple signifies a new life of access to God for His people. Creation rattles to the point that it cracks open stones and busts open sepulchers of saints about to be resurrected. A Roman soldier profoundly declares that the deceased criminal on the middle cross is, after all, the Son of God – likely a testimony of a new living faith. Even in this gloomy setting there are clear signs that all is not lost. A great drama of life is about to unfold as has never been known to man. The woman may be mourning the loss of their beloved Lord, but soon they will know the very essence of joy inexplicable and filled with glory. Their mourning will turn to dancing. But they, and we, will have to wait. Jesus' must still keep his promise to give but one sign to his detractors.

*"An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign,
but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet
Jonah.*

*For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of
the great fish,*

*so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the
heart of the earth."*

Matthew 12:39-40