**R864 (74) Rumination for 15th August, 2021 by K.C. Ung**

The **T**heme: **The Curtain is Rent**

The **T**ext: *He saw heaven being torn open* Mk. 1:10, NIV

 *Behold, the veil of the temple was* ***rent*** *in twain from the top to the bottom.* Mt. 27:51

The **T**hots:

1. **The Curtains of Heaven Rent**
2. God *Created* the Heavens. Gen. 1:1, NIV

 *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

1. God *Stretched out* the Heavens like a Curtain. Psa. 104:2

 *Who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain.*

1. God *Rent* the Curtains of the Heavens. Mk. 1:10
2. The Transla**tion**:
	1. *He* (Jesus) *saw the heavens opened.* KJV
	2. He (Jesus) *saw the heavens torn apart.* NRSV
3. The Defini**tion**:

*Opened* = Gk. *schizo* = to split or sever (lit. or fig.): break, divide, open, rend, make a rent.

1. The Ac**tion**
	1. God rent the curtains of Heaven open. Mk. 1:10, NIV

*He* (Jesus) *saw heaven being torn open*

* 1. God then **C**ommended His Son to **C**ommence His mission on earth. Mk. 1:11

*Thou art My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*

* 1. His **S**on would be **S**ent to the cross to die for lost mankind. Rom. 5:8

 *God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*

1. **The Curtains of the Temple Rent**
	* 1. **God Commanded the Curtain in the Tabernacle to be made.** Exo. 26:31, NIV

*Make a curtain (veil) of blue, purple and scarlet yarn and finely twisted linen, with cherubim worked into it.*

1. God’s **P**resence in the Holiest of **A**ll could not be **A**pproached because of the Curtain. Heb. 9:8

 *Signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest*

1. Only the High **P**riest was **A**llowed in one day a year with a blood sacrifice. Heb. 9:7

*But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood.*

* + 1. **God Rent the Curtain in the Temple from top to bottom.**
			1. When *Jesus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost*.*,* i.e. *….* Mk.15:37
1. When Jesus (had) said, *It is finished.* Jn. 19:30
2. *When Jesus had cried… Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit.* Lk. 23:46
	* + 1. Then *the veil of the temple was rent (Gk. schizo) in twain from the top to the bottom.* Mk. 15:38

*Cf. the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.* Mt. 27:51, NIV

[Note: the curtain being torn from top to bottom would indicate it to be the work of God.]

* + - 1. Thus, *a new and living way… hath* (been) *consecrated for us through the veil* Heb. 10:20

 *that is to say, His flesh;*

1. *Having now a High Priest over the house of God;* Heb. 10:21
2. *(*And*) Having, therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus*. 10:19, 22

*Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith,*

*having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.*

**To Remember our Lord and to Worship Him**

**Con.:**

The *Curtains of Heaven* were **rent** in two for God to **I**dentify His **S**on at the **C**ommencement of His Ministry.

The *Curtain of the Temple* was **rent** in two by God to **I**ndicate the **S**uccessful **C**onclusion of His Son’s Ministry.

*The veil is rent in Christ alone;*

*The living way to Heaven is seen;*

*The middle wall is broken down,*

*And all mankind may enter in.*

*The types and figures are fulfilled;*

*Exacted is the legal pain;*

*The precious promises are sealed;*

*The spotless Lamb of God is slain.*

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK. R. 864**

1. **Hebrews 10:19-20** – *Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,* ***By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, His flesh***

The words of the above text highlighted in bold are distinctive of Typical Language used in interpreting scripture.

The *new and living way* is indicative of access into the presence of God via the Holy of Holies and the Holiest of All where abode the presence of God as typified in the Tabernacle. The Way through the Holy Place into the Holiest of All is therefore a reference to it as a type [or a copy] of the Way into the Presence of God taken by the Lord Jesus in reality when He returned to heaven after His resurrection by way of the heavens as we read in:

**Hebrews 9:23-26 (HCSB)**

*23 Therefore it was necessary for* ***the copies of the things******in the heavens*** *to be purified with these ⌊sacrifices⌋, but the heavenly things themselves ⌊to be purified⌋ with better sacrifices than these. For the Messiah did not enter a sanctuary made with hands (****only a model of the true one****) but* ***into heaven itself****, so that He might now appear in the presence of God for us. He did not do this to offer Himself many times, as the high priest enters the sanctuary yearly with the blood of another. Otherwise, He would have had to suffer many times since the foundation of the world.* ***But now He has appeared one time****, at the end of the ages, for the removal of sin by the sacrifice of Himself.*

 ***through the veil, that is to say, his flesh*** is a reference in type (or in picture) to mean that His flesh, typified by the rent veil in the temple, now was torn on the cross and He died thus paving the new way into the presence of God open making it accessible to all. Jesus had died as the sacrifice of the sin offering on the cross breaking down the veil of partition between God and us for us now to have free access to God.

*Hebrews 10:19-20* - *Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh…*

Are you making full use of the **new and living way** living out the new normal to…

***Let us*** *draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.*

***Let us*** *hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)*

*And* ***let us*** *consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:*

*Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching*?

Are you doing the above walking in the new and living way? **REFLECT.**

1. The veil had been rent, The new and living way of access into the presence of God in the Holiest of All is now made accessible. Those of us who have been washed by the precious blood of Jesus are now entitled to draw near unto God personally without the intermediacy of any other except the Lord Jesus Christ Who is the only Mediator between God and Man (I Tim. 2:5). Yet today in many “church set-ups” barriers have been raised by church authorities to bar the normal ordinary members into the presence of God except through the intermediacy of so-called priests and their ilk. Thus a human clergy is set up within the precincts of the church between God and Man, when it is so clearly stated that “*there is* one *God, and* ***one Mediator*** *between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus; Who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time” (*1 Tim. 2:5-6*).* Are you in any way discouraged or prevented from drawing unto God personally on your own without the assistance of a priest? Will you subscribe to such a practice? **REFLECT**

**Points To Ponder:** *What God has* ***P****ulled Down, Let No Man* ***P****ut Up.*