



The Veil



THE CURTAIN IN MOSES' TIME

There were ten curtains of finely twisted linen; with blue, purple & scarlet yarn with cherubim worked into them by skilled craftsmen.

The nearest modern equivalent is the safety curtain they used to drop down in theatres and cinemas during the interval to protect the audience from backstage electric fires.



THE MOSAIC CURTAIN – 42' LONG, 6' WIDE

The Temple in Jesus' time had been built by Herod the Great around 19BC and was destroyed by the Romans in Titus' reign (AD70). The site was probably located on the site of what today is the Dome of the Rock.

In Jesus' time the 'veil' or curtain was much bigger; 60' high and 30' across, elaborate and beautifully embroidered between 3" and 5" thick (scholars are divided)

Heb: 10;19-22 (Key passage) shows that through Jesus' death mankind could pass through the 'veil' into the very presence of God Almighty without the need of a human High Priest. Jesus is our High Priest!



AT THIS POINT, A BIT OF THEOLOGY: Rom 11;22 –“...Behold the kindness and the severity of God...”

The Israelites needed to remember that there is a great gulf between God (HOLY) and Man (PROFANE). These are two absolutes and opposites. The two cannot meet unless ... repentance and cleansing from the sin are dealt with first in order to restore relationship with God. God is pure and holy; man is impure and unholy. Holiness is an absolute. Perfection is an absolute. Mankind cannot be nearly perfect; ROM:3;10,12,23 “...for all have sinned ... and fallen short of the glory of God.”

Thus the imperfect, unholy, impure cannot come into contact with the holy, perfect, the pure, without contaminating the latter! That which is imperfect, impure, unholy must be destroyed by and the presence of the Holy. Blood in ancient times represented ‘life taken or laid down’

However, there are two things which result in the possibility of our salvation: (1) God cannot stand being separated from His creation and yearns for the fellowship of the Garden of Eden to be restored and (2) He provided the way by substituting first animals and then His only son, Jesus to pay the price of our sin instead of us.

HENCE THE ‘SAFETY’ CURTAIN.



Ark of the Covenant: Exodus 25:10-16



measurements and construction

- 3'9 long, 2'3" broad & long
- Made of acacia wood (also called shittim wood)
- and covered with gold.



