

APRIL 16

Communion is...

Communion is an invitation only meal... the devil isn't invited, but we are.

Read Matthew 27:50-53

Beginning today we are going to look at some of the supernatural happenings that took place in the moments after Jesus yielded up His Spirit on the cross. We mentioned them several days ago, but now we are going to take a more focused look at each one. Why? Because these supernatural happenings were the aftereffects of Christ's powerful death. And we know from what Paul tells us in I Corinthians 11:26, that as we take communion, we are **"proclaiming Christ's death."** Understanding this, we can know as we proclaim Christ's death in communion, we can look for these supernatural aftereffects in our lives too.

So, after Jesus yielded His Spirit, the first supernatural happening we read of in Matthew 27:51 is this, ***"And behold the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom..."***

It is so interesting and life-giving to understand that the veil of the temple which separated God from man was torn in two ***"from top to bottom..."*** God had instituted this veil as a boundary long ago when Moses was first instructed to build the tabernacle so that God's children could worship Him. So for generation after generation, God's people had worshiped Him from a distance... separated by this veil which was a stark reminder that they were sinful and not welcome in the presence of their Holy God.

But in immediate response to Jesus taking on the sin of the world and dying in our place, God reached down from heaven and mightily tore that veil in two, ***"from top to bottom..."*** The fact that it was torn from the top to the bottom shows us that God did this! And His action sends a clear message... that sin no longer can separate us from Him, that He wants to be near to us and that He is willing to do whatever it takes to make that happen!

As we take communion today, let's proclaim this... that nothing has the power to separate us from God any longer! And should we sense new veils trying to raise themselves up... a veil of anxiousness, a veil of unbelief, a veil of fear or insecurity or any other separation from God we just can't seem to fix, let's proclaim the death of Jesus over these veils as well and expect to see our God tear them down. Our God desires to be near us. What a blessing!

Prayer Conversation Starter...

Jesus, please tear down anything that would try to separate me from You! I am often powerless to take these things down myself, but Your mighty hand is more than able...



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