

(Exodus) Exodus 26:15-37

by J. Vernon McGee

The tabernacle's framework and coverings represent Christ's deity, humanity, and royalty, and the way to God through His death.

Duration: 7:10

Scripture: Isaiah 53:8, Matthew 2:2, Matthew 27:51, John 4:24, John 14:6, Ephesians 4:3, Hebrews 10:20

Topics: "Tabernacle Symbolism", "Christ Our Mediator"

Description

In this sermon, the speaker discusses the significance of the veils in the tabernacle. The inner veil, made of blue, purple, and scarlet, represents the humanity of Christ and is hung on four pillars, symbolizing the four gospels. The outer veil, called the hanging for the door of the tent, leads to the holy place and represents the way to God through the cross of Christ. The speaker emphasizes that Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life, and that worshiping God requires coming through Jesus and in truth. The sermon also highlights the importance of the Spirit of God in holding the church together and the symbolism of the colors and materials used in the tabernacle.

Transcript

And then he talks about, thou shalt make boards for the tabernacle. Now it had on each side of it twenty boards, a cubit and a half. These boards were made of this chitim wood, which was very hard wood, like our redwood.

It was practically indestructible. And these boards were covered with gold. And you have twenty on each side, ten in the rear, and there was a certain amount of overlapping, of course.

And this actually constituted the tabernacle proper. Now there were certain bars that went down by these boards that held them together because there was put in each one of these boards a place, a ring, for the bar to go through. And so that when these boards were put up, the bar was just run through.

And there were three bars. One of them was a center one. And you see, it would hold the tabernacle together.

And this was very important. Now I believe that everything in the tabernacle speaks of Christ, either His person or His work, or something connected with Him. I think every color, I think that every thread, I think every article of furniture, everything spoke of Him.

And this speaks of the fact that the Spirit of God is what holds together today. The church believers should be held together by the Spirit of God. We are told to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

That is the thing that's given to us here. Now we find that in these coverings that went over, and I didn't call particular attention to them, but there really were four different colors. There was blue, the heavenly color, and then there was the scarlet, the blood color, and then the purple, and that was the blending of the two, and that speaks of royalty.

The heavenly color and the blood, heaven touching earth, the humanity, and then He was born King of the Jews. I think even in the colors that you find this. And then these bars speak of the fact that this is what holds the church together.

And all was overlaid with gold. Now that speaks again of His deity. That's the impressive thing, and that was the appearance given on the outside.

Now we're told that there are certain veils to the tabernacle. There was that inner veil. Verse 31, "...thou shalt make a veil of blue and purple and scarlet," now you have the three colors here, "...and fine twine linen of cunning work with cherry beams shall it be made, and thou shalt hang it upon four pillars of chitin wood overlaid with gold.

Their hooks shall be of gold upon the four sockets of silver." It all rests upon redemption, you see, these sockets of silver. And there are four pillars that this veil is hung on, and that veil speaks of the humanity of Christ, and there are four Gospels that tell that forth, which makes it very important, by the way. And there are gold pillars on silver sockets.

Deity takes hold of earth through redemption. And there's no capitals on these pillars. That is, nothing on top.

They were just cut off. And we're told Isaiah says He was cut off out of the land of the living. He lived to be just 33 years of age.

Now, the veil proper made of fine twine linen. It was a covering for the ark on the wilderness march. And the only entrance to the Holy of Holies was through the veil.

And you couldn't come except through this veil. Now, what did that veil speak of? That veil speaks of the humanity of Christ. That veil speaks of the fact that when He was on the cross and dismissed His Spirit, when He died, and there was the rent and the fracture of His Spirit in His body, He dismissed His Spirit.

Why? The veil in the temple was rent and twine. The way to God was open. The way to God today is through Christ, the only way to God.

There's only one entrance to the Holy of Holies. No man cometh to God but by Me. Somebody says, well, it's just so you're sincere and you belong to some church.

Don't you believe that, my friend? You don't find that in the Word of God. It's when you and I stand before the veil, that's where we see Him. And we're actually reminded of our imperfections at a time like that.

But thank God it brings us into the presence of God. What a wonderful picture this is. I know of nothing that is as beautiful as that veil was.

A great deal is said about it. It was changed every year. It got so it was nearly five inches thick.

And wild horses were tied to one that had been taken out. It had been there a year. They tried to tear it in two, but they couldn't.

This is the veil that was rent. It's His humanity. And friends, it's not His life that saves us.

It's His death. That spotless life condemned us. When I stand before the veil, why, that condemns us.

We see ourselves not able to pass into the presence of God. His death saved us. The veil was rent and twain, man on one side and God on the other.

What a picture that we have here. It is a glorious picture, by the way, that's given to us. Now, let me move on down.

There's another veil here. We have verse 36, "...Thou shalt make a hanging for the door of the tent." Now, the veil was for the inner way, led into the Holy of Holies. The door to the tabernacle led into the holy place.

Now, outside was the gate of the tabernacle, and that led into the outer court where the brazen altar was that speaks of the cross of Christ. Now, these are the three entrances, and it's no accident that He said, "...I am the way, the truth, and the life." Now, will you notice? The gate leads to the brazen altar. That brazen altar is the cross of Christ.

I am the way. The way to God is by a cross. The way of the cross leads home.

There's no other way, but the way of the cross leads home. And He says, I'm the truth. And if you worship God, you'll have to worship Him in spirit and in truth.

Now, you just don't worship God anyway. You have to come through the Lord Jesus, and you have to come in truth, the spirit of truth. And so that's second way.

I'm the way, the truth. Then He said, I'm the life. And that's the veil that was rent in plain.

He gave up His life, and that was rent. His life never brought us to God. It's His death that brought us to God.

What a glorious picture that we have here in the tabernacle.

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