

**"The Death Of Deaths"**  
**Matthew 27:45-54**  
**Good Friday April 18, 2014**

**Acts 4:12**

**"The Cross" Reveals The Depths Of Sin, Which Could Only Be Remedied Through The Sinless Savior's Death: 2 Corinthians 5:21.**

**"The Cross" Declares God's Great Love: Romans 5:8.**

**"The Cross" Was God's Plan To Sacrifice Jesus For The Sins Of The World: 1 Corinthians 5:7; John 1:29.**

**"The Cross" Embodied Israel's Sacrificial Principle Of Substitution Of One Life Exchanged For Another: 1 Corinthians 15:3.**

**"The Savior's Death" stands out. Matthew 27:50**

**I Want To Look At 5 Occurrences That Surrounded "The Death Of Deaths":**

**1. Verses 45-50 – Three Hours Of Darkness:**

Matthew 27:45

The Scriptures record 3 specific times:

3rd hour (9:00 AM); Mark 15:25 – "And it was the third hour"

6th hour (12:00 PM); Matthew 27:45 – "Now from the sixth hour"

9th hour (3:00 PM); Matthew 27:46 – "And about the ninth hour"

The 9<sup>th</sup> Plague Of Egypt, Was Darkness: (Just before the Passover)  
Exodus 10:22.

Darkness Upon The Egyptians And Light With Israel: Exodus 14:20.

**We Live In A World Of Spiritual Darkness. The Result Of Rejecting Jesus: Romans 1:21-23.**

Matthew 27:46

"And about the ninth hour (3 PM) Jesus cried out" – There has been darkness now for 3 hours and now Jesus breaks the silence with a loud voice.

"Jesus cried out with a loud voice," – This being the 4<sup>th</sup> of 7 Statements of Jesus from the Cross; The Word of Anguish.

Quotation from Psalm 22: 1-3

2 Corinthians 5: 21

This wail is the wail of a lost soul. This was the Father's will that the Son taste spiritual death for all mankind; That Jesus let out this cry so that we would never have to let it out ourselves.

Galatians 3: 13

Matthew 27: 47-50

Luke 23: 46

John 19: 30

## **2. Verse 51 – Veil Torn Top To Bottom:**

Matthew 27: 51

"And behold, the veil of the temple" – This Temple being the Temple of Herod.

"The veil" – Blocked the entrance to the Holy of Holies in the Jerusalem Temple.

The temple curtain was 4 inches thick (Hand). The length was 60 feet. The width was 30 feet. And the weight was in the region of 4 tons (It took 300 men to hold it).

**The Veil was a constant reminder that sin renders humanity unfit for the presence of God.**

### **Why Was The Veil Torn?**

1. Jesus, offering Himself, was the perfect and final sacrifice; so nothing more needs to be done or can be done to reconcile sinful men and women to God.

“was torn in two from top to bottom,” – God Himself whom removed the barrier!

“My Son has removed this veil and eliminated the need for it, through a single, perfect, once-for-all sacrifice that cleanses the redeemed from their sins forever.”

2. Because of Jesus Christ’s work, it is now possible for those who believe on Him to approach God directly.

Hebrews 9: 11-12

3. The old system of offering sacrifices year by year was over.

The Torn Veil indicates that Jesus Conquered Sin.

### **3. Verse 51 – The Earth Shook:**

Matthew 27:51

Earthquakes in Scripture are often used, like darkness, to signify a graphic display of divine judgment. In particular, earthquakes signify God’s wrath.

When Moses met with God at Sinai to receive the tablets of the Law, “the whole mountain quaked greatly” Exodus 19: 18.

Revelation – the final judgment of the earth will come, Revelation 16: 18-20.

**Supernatural earthquake like this one could only signify the wrath of God.**

**The Earthquake Suggests that Jesus Conquered the Law and Fulfilled it.**

### **4. Verses 52-53 – The Tombs Were Opened:**

Matthew 27:52-53

“and coming out of the tombs after His resurrection” – didn’t appear in Jerusalem until after Jesus’ resurrection.

Jesus is the first fruits of those risen from the dead, 1 Corinthians 15:20.

"all that are in the graves shall hear His voice and shall come forth",  
John 5:28-29.

### **The Resurrection Proves that Jesus Defeated Death.**

#### **5. Verse 54 – Changed Hearts Of The Soldiers:**

Matthew 27:54

"the centurion," – a "century"; A Roman centurion was the commander of a hundred-man division, the basic building-block of a Roman legion.

"became very frightened" – typical reaction of people who suddenly realized the truth about who Jesus is. Mark 4:41; 5:33.

"became very frightened" – by the sudden realization that, "Jesus was innocent; and not merely innocent, but He was also precisely whom He claimed to be. They had actually killed the Son of God."

Mark 15:39

Luke 23:47

#### **Application:**

1. The Death Of Jesus Was God's Plan To Reconcile And Save Sinful Man (Not an afterthought but the very plan).
2. The Death Of Jesus Reveals The Depths And Extent Of Sin, Which Could Only Be Remedied Through Jesus' Death.
3. The Death Of Jesus Declares God's Great Love. That the Sinless/Guiltless Son Of God Willingly Took The Righteous Wrath Of God's Punishment, So That We Could Be Saved.
4. What Must We Do? John 6:28 – "They said therefore to Him, 'What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?'" 29 "Jesus answered and said to them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent.'"