

The Torn Curtain

September 11, 2022
Mark 15:33-41

Pastor Mark Turner
Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

The Darkness

- darkness @ mid-day 12-3.
- Not an eclipse, not possible at Passover, eclipses 7 ½ min
- darkness was God's judgment
- Darkness before 1st Passover : Ex 10:21-23 - 3 days
- Fulfills Amos 8:9
- God's signal He is about to judge sinners...
- Beware another darkness is coming Rev 16:10-11
- Avoid it by faith through faith in Christ Rev 19:9

The Ultimate Cry of Anguish

- v34 - ultimate cry of anguish
- Curse of the Covenant^{Gen15} coming to bear: God cut in two!
- Luther: "God forsaken of God! Who can understand it?"
- Jesus was holy, perfect who had to bear our icky sin
- Jesus descended into hell – abandoned by God
- Because of Jesus, believers will never be abandoned^{Heb13:5-6}

The Responses 35-39

- `religious Jews' thought Jesus calling for Elijah (superstitious)
- Roman centurion - saw something different in Jesus
- The Women - bravely remained w/ Jesus, later annoint body

Jesus Gave His Life for Sinners

- v37 Jesus breathed His last!
- Not in subjection to some fate, but as an act of obedience
- Jesus gave His life^{Jn19:30} as a ransom^{Mk10:45}

The Sound of Fabric Tearing 38

- Gospels tell us temple curtain torn from top to bottom
- Must have been an event with all the Passover worshipers
- Likely the Holy of Holies - Heb 9:11-12
- Christ's sacrifice ended the bloody sacrifices of the Old Covenant
- Christ's blood purchased for us the New CovenantLk22:20

So What?

- Look to Jesus' work alone for your salvation
- Our works can never measure up – only Christ's perfect work on our behalf: 2 Cor 5:21
- That means as believers we can have confidence, not in our works, but by faith in Christ's works on our behalf:
Heb 10:19-22 — 19 Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, 20 by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

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