

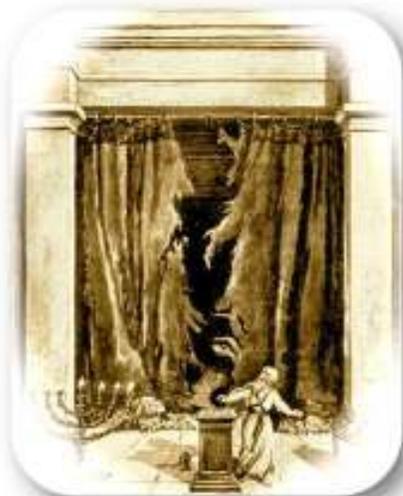
EASTER REFLECTIONS

"The Four Miracles"

*"Now it was about the sixth hour,
and there was darkness over all the
earth until the ninth hour.*

[1] Then the sun was darkened,..."

~Luke 23:44-45a



*"Then, behold, the [2] veil of the temple
was torn in two from top to bottom; and
[3] the earth quaked, and the rocks were split,
and the graves were opened;
[4] and many bodies of the saints who had fallen
asleep were raised; and coming out of the graves
after His resurrection, they went into the
holy city and appeared to many."*

~Matthew 25:51-52

What we celebrate as "Good Friday" must have been "frightful Friday" for those witnessing the dramatic events that occurred during Christ's crucifixion. The events could not have gone unnoticed. Everyone knew that something significant had happened. We can only imagine how the people were affected.

The veil splitting in two must have devastated the priests who were undoubtedly working in the temple during the busy Passover week. The fact that it was torn from top to bottom reveals a total break with the Old Testament covenant. The New Testament stresses that it represents our free access to God. The barriers between God and man have been broken. Jesus is the new temple, and we live in the new age of salvation by faith.

*"Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus,
by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh,
and having a High Priest over the house of God,
let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith,
having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.
Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.*

Hebrews 10:19-23 NKJV

The Most Excellent Way