

3-20-2025 Sunday Sermon Message
Devotional of the Week: Psalm 91:1-16
Text: Matthew 27:50-54

Title: **God gives eternal life to all who believe in Jesus' death and resurrection**

After He died on the cross to take away all the sins of the world, the veil of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.

The Apostle Paul testified through the Holy Spirit about the mystery of the temple veil that was very important to the Hebrews:

"By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; ."(Hebrews 10:20)

When Jesus' body was torn on the cross, they are able to enter the Holy of Holies, which was opened through his torn body. Jesus told his disciples beforehand:

"I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."(John 14:6)

Jesus clearly said that if we do not believe in Him who was torn by the shedding of water and blood and crucified all the sins of the law to take away the sins of the world, we cannot enter God the Father who gives us life. In other words, He made a way to enter the Most Holy Place through His torn body.

Jesus gives life to all who believe in his death and resurrection, not only those born in the New Testament times but also those born in the age of the Law.

After the veil of the temple was torn in two, the earth shook, and the rocks were parted, the bodies of many of the saints who had fallen asleep were resurrected and raised. When they died, they went to Abraham's bosom, which is neither heaven nor hell, but paradise on earth, and slept. The sins they had committed while they were alive were protected for a short time by the blood of the sacrifices for their sins according to the law, and when Christ shed His blood, they could be resurrected through the blood of Christ they believed.

King David prophesied about this:

"I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

⁹Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

"(Psalm 16:8-10)

King David reminded us that under the law of that day, all sacrifices that shed blood were temporary, not permanent:

"Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire; mine ears hast thou opened: burnt offering and sin offering hast thou not required."(Psalm 40:6)

He also prophesied the words of Christ Jesus, who is coming forth in the Holy Spirit, to God the Father:

"Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me,

⁸I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.

⁹I have preached righteousness in the great congregation: lo, I have not refrained my lips, O Lord, thou knowest."(Psalm 40:7-9)

The Apostle Paul testified about the gospel of Christ to the Jews who were in Old Testament times:

"But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year.

⁴For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

⁵Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me:

⁶In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure.

⁷Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

⁸Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law;

⁹ Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.”(Hebrews 10:3-9)

This is why the Apostle Paul proclaimed great word about Christ's death and resurrection:

" By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.”(Hebrews 10:10)

He also made it clear that for those who were sanctified by the once-offering of Christ's body for sins, the sin offering differed from the sin offering offered in the days of the Law:

" But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God:

¹³ From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.

¹⁴ For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.”(Hebrews 10:12-14)

For this reason, when Christ tore the veil between the Holy Place and the Most Holy from top to bottom through His torn flesh, they were sanctified by His blood through Christ's once death and could no longer remain dead in the grave.

The apostle Matthew testified about what the Old Testament saints did when Jesus rose from the grave when He was resurrected:

"And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.”(Matthew 27:53)

Many of the saints who finally came out of the grave and entered the holy city had the honor of being the first to be raptured to heaven with Christ, who became the firstfruits of the resurrection, because they did not need to stay on this earth any longer.

The last thing Christ will do now is to resurrect the New Testament saints who are asleep in hope and the surviving saints and take them to heaven. The Apostle Paul testified of this wonderful hope:

"But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep,

that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

¹⁵ For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

¹⁶ For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

¹⁷ Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

¹⁸ Wherefore comfort one another with these words.”(1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)

King David testified of his hope in the resurrection:

"As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.”(Psalm 17:15)

The Apostle Paul testified about how the New Testament saints would become:

"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.”(Romans 8:29) Amen! Hallelujah!