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MINISTRIES

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Which Veil?

History. We’ve all heard it said that if we don’t study it, we’re doomed to repeat it. But do we really believe that? If you DO believe it, the question then needs to be asked, do you study history? We are talking Biblical history though. Could what happened in the history of the Scriptures be any indicator of what could happen in the future? And could knowing the history of the Scriptures assist in understanding the writings of the New Testament? We believe so. Especially on this topic today.

We cannot tell you how many times we have had someone quote 2 Corinthians 3 in regards to saying that the law is done away with. Let’s review these verses that they use and see what we come up with.

2 Corinthians 3:13

...not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end.

What was the purpose of the veil that covered Moses’ face? Was it to keep people from looking at his face or to keep people from seeing the law? It was to keep people from seeing his face.

To prove our point here, let’s look at the actual account.

Exodus 34:30-35

Aaron and all the people of Israel saw Moses, and behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses talked with them. Afterward all the people of Israel came near, and he commanded them all that the Lord (YHWH) had spoken with him in Mount Sinai. And when Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face.

Whenever Moses went in before the Lord (YHWH) to speak with him, he would remove the veil, until he came out. And when he came out and told the people of Israel what he was commanded, the people of Israel would see the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face was shining. And Moses would put the veil over his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

Please note verses 33 and 35 again.

Verse 33: *When Moses finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face.*

And verse 35: *the people of Israel would see the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face was shining. And Moses would put the veil over his face again, until he went in to speak with him.*

It was only AFTER Moses gave the instructions from God that the veil was placed over his face. Only AFTERWARDS. Not during or even before. But only AFTERWARDS. Thus the message was given with clarity first for them to learn. THEN he covered his face.

Next...

2 Corinthians 3:14

But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away.

We must note here that it says their minds were HARDENED. First, we need to ask what hardened their minds? Then, WHY were their minds were hardened?

The next part of the verse says “*For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted*”

So here we see that it's a veil that has hardened their minds. So now we know WHAT hardened their minds. It was a veil. However, it says it's a veil that remains. What same veil remains? The same veil that covered Moses' face? At just a passing glance, it would sure seem that this is what Paul was talking about. But did that veil keep them from understanding the law that Moses gave at that time? Of course not. The law was given at the time his face shone! Not when it was covered.

How would the veil that covered Moses' face be relevant in this matter at all? It did not affect the delivery or the understanding of the law that was given through Moses at that time. So how could that veil affect anything now? Remember, that veil was placed over his face AFTER he delivered the Word of God.

Could it be that Paul is showing that just as Moses' face was covered so that others would not see the glory of God, that now THEIR faces are the ones covered from seeing God's glory? We believe so. But if this is the case, what veil would it be that is covering them? And why? WHY were their minds were hardened?

This is where history is important. History in the Scriptures that is. Consider what we find in the book of Isaiah.

Isaiah 6:10

*Make the heart of this people dull,
and their ears heavy,
and blind their eyes;
lest they see with their eyes,
and hear with their ears,
and understand with their hearts,
and turn and be healed.”*

Why in the world would the Father NOT want his people to see or hear? Why would He want their hearts to be calloused? This doesn't make any sense, right? Wrong. First, we must not forget that following the law brought blessings on one's life.

Deuteronomy 28:1-2

“And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord (YHWH) your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord (YHWH) your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord (YHWH) your God.”

But what happens if they do not carefully follow His commands?

Deuteronomy 28:15

“But if you will not obey the voice of the Lord (YHWH) your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you.”

So if they disobeyed, He would not let the blessings be on them. And we know that both the Northern and Southern kingdoms of Israel rebelled. This is why Isaiah stated regarding ALL of Israel:

Isaiah 53:6

All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way

Thus, this is the reason for the Syrian and Babylonian invasions to the Northern and Southern kingdoms.

God's people were living in rebellion. He could not and would not let His people be blessed because of their rebellion. So he had to veil their understanding of His ways or else they would walk in His ways that naturally brought the blessings. But how was this accomplished? Consider the words of Jeremiah referred to by many as the weeping prophet.

Lamentations 3:65

Put a veil over their hearts, and may your curse be on them!

Again:

Lamentations 3:65

Put a veil over their hearts, and may your curse be on them!

A veil was to cover their hearts and God's curse be on them. The curse of the law which starts in Deuteronomy 28:15.

Knowing the history of the Scriptures truly sheds light on these verses from Paul. Paul, who knew the law and the prophets, is explaining the veil mentioned by Jeremiah here in Lamentations and the curse of the law, the curse of sin and death, which is also referred to by Paul as the law of sin and death in the book of Romans.

Romans 8:2

For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus (Messiah Yeshua) from the law of

sin and death.

But why would he call it a law? Because it's like gravity. Throw something up, it's going to come back down. The law of gravity. Likewise, disobeying God's commands is sin and it brings curses. Disobey and then comes the curses. The law of sin and death.

It is in Christ only that this veil and the curse is taken away as the verse says: verses 15 & 16 now

2 Corinthians 3:15-16

Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. But when one turns to the Lord (YHWH), the veil is removed.

So the veil that Jeremiah referred to is the veil that covers their hearts and keeps them from understanding to walk in His ways because of the curse of the law. And only in Christ is that veil and the curse removed.

This is also covered in our teaching titled "[The Tutor](#)" regarding Galatians chapter 3.

It is clear that it is NOT the veil of Moses that keeps people from understanding the Scriptures today but rather the veil as mentioned by the prophet Jeremiah. The veil of Moses NEVER kept anyone from seeing or understanding the Word of God. Never. However, the veil as mentioned by Jeremiah has. And it is THIS veil that remains until it is taken away in Christ. Yet, if we don't know the history found in the Scriptures, this could be easily overlooked and repeated.

If you have found this topic of interest, we encourage you to watch our teaching titled "[The Lost Sheep](#)". This teaching dives into the history found in the Scriptures and reveals where we are today in the grand scheme of God's timeline.

We hope you have enjoyed this teaching.

Remember, continue to test everything.

Shalom!

For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at www.testeverything.net

Shalom, and may Yahweh bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.

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