

Hebrews 9:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing:

Analysis

The Holy Spirit 'indicating' (Greek 'dēloō' - making clear) through the tabernacle structure that 'the way into the Holiest of All was not yet made manifest while the first tabernacle was still standing.' The physical veil blocking access symbolized spiritual inaccessibility. The old covenant's very structure testified to its incompleteness - it created longing for better access that it couldn't provide. Reformed theology sees the entire OT as creating hunger for Christ.

Historical Context

The veil's function was exclusion - keeping people out of God's immediate presence due to sin. Christ's death tore the veil (Matthew 27:51), symbolizing that His sacrifice opened access to God, making the old system obsolete.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How did the old covenant's restrictions create longing for the access Christ provides?
2. What does the torn veil at Christ's death reveal about the immediate effect of His sacrifice?

Interlinear Text

τοῦτο δηλοῦντος τοῦ πνεύματος τοῦ ἀγίου μήπω
this signifying G3588 Ghost G3588 The Holy not yet
G5124 G1213 G4151 G40 G3380

πεφανερῶσθαι τὴν τῶν ἀγίων ὁδὸν ἔτι τῆς
made manifest G3588 into the holiest of all that the way yet G3588
G5319 G3588 G39 G3598 G2089

πρώτης σκηνῆς ἔχούστης στάσιν
while as the first tabernacle was standing
G4413 G4633 G2192 G4714

Additional Cross-References

John 14:6 (Parallel theme): Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Hebrews 3:7 (Holy): Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice,

Ephesians 2:18 (Spirit): For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

Hebrews 9:3 (Temple): And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all;

2 Peter 1:21 (Holy): For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

John 10:9 (Parallel theme): I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

Galatians 3:8 (Parallel theme): And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.

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