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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? I’m 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.

I can’t 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

We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to keep the Israelites from gazing at it while the radiance was fading away.

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

³⁰ When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, his face was radiant, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹ But Moses called to them; so Aaron and all the leaders of the community came back to him, and he spoke to them. ³² Afterward all the Israelites came near him, and he gave them all the commands (Yahweh) the LORD had given him on Mount Sinai. ³³ When Moses finished speaking to them, he put a veil over his face. ³⁴ But whenever he entered (Yahweh’s) the LORD’s presence to speak with him, he removed the veil until he came out. And when he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵ they saw that his face was radiant. Then Moses would put the veil back over his face until he went in to speak with (Yahweh) the LORD.

Please note verses 33 and 35 again.

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

And verse 35: [They saw that his face was radiant. Then Moses would put the veil back over his face until he went in to speak with \(Yahweh\) the LORD.](#)

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...

2Corinthians 3:14

[But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away.](#)

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

The next part of the verse says “for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read.”

So here we see that it’s a veil that has made their minds dull. So now we know WHAT made their minds dull. 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 made dull?

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 calloused; make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed.](#)

Why in the world would the Father NOT want his people to hear or see? 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. Compare:

Deuteronomy 28:1-2

[If you fully obey \(Yahweh\) the LORD your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, \(Yahweh\) the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. All these](#)

blessings will come upon you and accompany you if you obey (Yahweh) the LORD your God.

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

Deuteronomy 28:15

However, if you do not obey (Yahweh) the LORD your God and do not carefully follow all his commands and decrees I am giving you today, all these curses will 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

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way.”

Thus, 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? Compare 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

Because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free 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

¹⁵ Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. ¹⁶ But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

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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