> *Leviticus 24:3 says,*
> “Outside the veil of the testimony, in the tent of meeting, Aaron shall arrange it from evening until morning before the LORD continually; it shall be a statute forever throughout your generations.”

The “Veil of the Testimony” (also called the “Curtain”) was a heavy, finely woven curtain that divided the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place (or Holy of Holies) in the Tabernacle (Exodus 26:31-33). The Most Holy Place was where the Ark of the Covenant the visible symbol of God’s presence and His covenant with Israel was kept (Exodus 25:10-22).

Theological significance:
The veil physically separated God’s holiness from sinful humanity, emphasizing that sinful man could not enter God’s immediate presence freely. The Most Holy Place was considered the dwelling place of God’s glory (Shekinah), and only the high priest could enter once a year on the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) to make atonement for the sins of Israel (Leviticus 16).

When the Israelites traveled, they dismantled the Tabernacle. To protect the Ark from exposure, God commanded that the veil be used to cover it during transport (Numbers 4:5-6). This demonstrated reverence and the sacredness of God's presence, even in transit.

Numbers 4:5 says,

> "When they set out, Aaron shall enter the tent of meeting and take down the veil of the screen and cover the ark of the testimony with it."

Spiritually, the veil symbolizes the barrier that sin places between humanity and God. Under the Old Covenant, access to God's presence was restricted and mediated through the priesthood and sacrifices, which only covered sins temporarily (Hebrews 9:7).

The tearing of the veil:
At Jesus' death, the veil was torn in two from top to bottom (Matthew 27:50-51 ESV), signifying the removal of this barrier not by human effort but by God's sovereign act.

Matthew 27:50-51 says,

> “And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit. And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.”

This event revealed that through Jesus’ once-for-all sacrifice (Hebrews 10:10), believers now have direct access to God’s presence.

Hebrews 4:14-16 encourages believers,

> “Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

This grace and access were longed for by Old Testament saints

but were only made fully available through Christ (Hebrews 11:13).

A sobering warning:
Because of this amazing grace, rejecting or profaning it is a grave matter.

Hebrews 10:29 warns,

> “How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace?”

Summary:
The veil was a tangible symbol of separation caused by sin, but through Christ’s death and resurrection, that separation has been removed. Now, all who believe can approach God’s throne of grace with confidence. This is a profound gift that calls for reverence, faithfulness, and gratitude.

May God help us to live in the light of this grace and never take it for granted.

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