24 March 2024

The darkness before the dawn

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| 44It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over all the land until the ninth hour. 45The sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn down the middle.46Then Jesus called out in a loud voice, “Father, into Your hands I commit My Spirit.” And when He had said this, He breathed His last.47When the centurion saw what had happened, he gave glory to God, saying, “Surely this was a righteous man.” 48And when all the people who had gathered for this spectacle saw what had happened, they returned home beating their breasts. 49But all those who knew Jesus, including the women who had followed Him from Galilee, stood at a distance watching these things.Luke 23:44-49 | **The** . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . **sign** **that Christ’s work was accomplished**. 23:44-45Was the darkness a solar eclipse?Sin’s . . . . . . . . . . veil. 44-45 The Light of the Word, John 8:12Salvation’s . . . . . . . . . . . veil. 45 The curtain of Christ’s body, Hebrews 10:19-20**The** . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . **saying** **that Christ’s work was accepted**. 23:46The unbroken . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 46 The Word was God, John 1:1, John 10:30The restored . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 46 Differences between Relationship & Fellowship I have authority, John 10:18**The** . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . **spectacle** **that the work was amazing**. 23:47-49Acknowledging the Divine . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 47 He became sin, so we… 2 Corinthians 5:21Anticipating the Divine . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 49 |

**My prayer priorities for this week**

S 24 Those who have dropped out of church

M 25 Phil & Louise

T 26 Aileen & George

W 27 Ray & Helen

T 28 Geoff & Joy

F 29 Steve & Jenni – Good Friday, 9:30 AM, Communion

S 30 Oldies and shut-ins

S 31 Moses & Sharon, Elizabeth, Ruth, Joseph

 Resurrection Sunday, Myanmar Morning Tea.

**Thought starters for personal reflection or group discussion**

1. Were you ever afraid of the dark? What makes the dark scary for some people?
2. List some reasons why you think God made the crucifixion a time of darkness (v45).
3. Explain the significance of the curtain in the temple, and the impacts of it being torn (v45).
4. What does v46 teach you about the death of a believer?
5. What do the words and actions of the people who were present suggest about their perception of Jesus’ crucifixion (v47-48)?
6. What do the different actions of those who followed Jesus suggest about their perceptions and expectations (v49)

**Tithes and offerings** (Target: $2,700 per week)

At the bank, LifeChurch Panania. BSB: 034 866. Account: 005 008 757. Online, LifeChurch Panania. BSB: 704 922. Account: 005 008 757.

**Donations to mission in Myanmar** (Target: $1,000 per month)

Account name: LifeChurch Panania. BSB: 032 260. Account: 422732.