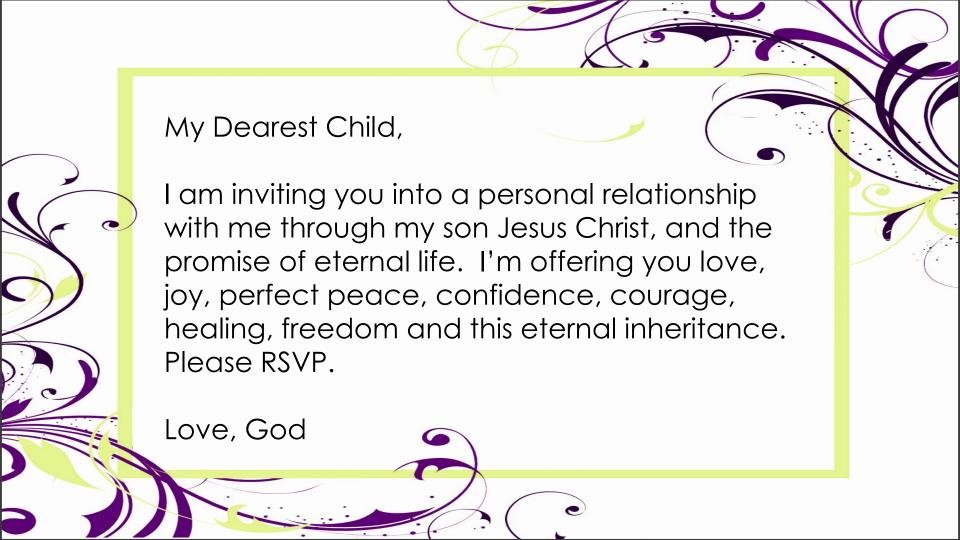
The Greatest Invitation

And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split. Matthew 27:50-51

JULY 17, 2022 SCOTT SWEETLAND, ASSOCIATE PASTOR, NHCC





split

And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit.

At that moment the curtain (veil) of the temple was torn in two from top to

bottom. The earth shook, the rocks

consciences from sinful deeds so that we can worship the living God. For by the power of the eternal Spirit, Christ offered himself to God as a perfect sacrifice for our sins. ¹⁵ That is why he is the one who mediates a new covenant between God and people, so that all who are called can receive the eternal inheritance God has promised them. For Christ died to set them free from the penalty of the sins they had committed under that first covenant.

¹⁶ Now when someone leaves a will, it is necessary to prove that the person who made it is dead.¹⁷ The <u>will goes into effect only after</u> the person's death. While the person who made it is still alive, the will cannot be put into effect.

Hebrews 10:19-24 NLT

¹⁹ And so, dear brothers and sisters, <u>we can boldly enter</u> heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. ²⁰ By his death, <u>Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain</u> into the Most Holy Place. ²¹ And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God's house, ²² <u>let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him</u>. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water.

²³ Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for <u>God</u> can be trusted to keep his promise. ²⁴ Let us think of ways to motivate one another to <u>acts of love and good works</u>.

- ▶ Jesus purified our conscience --- gives us CONFIDENCE!
- ▶ Jesus mediates a new covenant and opened the curtain for us --- God is saying <u>YOU</u> are <u>WORTHY and REDEEMED</u>!
- ► Jesus sets us free from sin --- you have <u>NEW FREEDOM</u> in Christ!
- ► Jesus had to die for this to take effect --- your INHERITANCE of eternal life!

- ▶ We can boldly come to the Father through Jesus ---COURAGE!
- ► We should fully trust God with sincere hearts --- gives us PERFECT PEACE!
- ► God wants to be in relationship with you and me --- God wants you to THRIVE! Our relationship has been MENDED!
- ► You will be MOTIVATED to do acts of LOVE and GOOD WORKS.

How can we respond?

- No
- Ignore
- Indifference
- ▶ Yes, but.....
- ► Yes, I'm IN!!! Believe it! Receive it!!!

Matthew 27:54: "When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!"

2 Corinthians 5:17-18 NIV

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation"

The veil is torn. Nothing separates us from eternal life with God!

- Come Believe it! Come Receive it! The power of his SPIRIT is now forever yours! In Jesus Name!!
- ▶ The invitation is YOURS!!

Questions? scott.sweetland@newhamptoncc.org

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