**Question: What is the “veil” in 1:7; 4:1; 4:3; 6:7?**

1. Analysis/Summary
   1. Hebrews 6:19 passage speaks of a veil that matches the allegorical interpretation of Song of Solomon. In the Song, the veil hides the woman from the world. Within (behind) the veil is where there is real closeness of the lord to the believer, a place of intimate communion.
   2. The veil of Song of Solomon is not the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is what can usher us to “behind the veil.” He is our Helper, the one who restrains the world, the one who convicts us and guides us.
      1. The Holy Spirit is our interface with the world.
   3. The veil separates with world from the very heart of God. The anchor of our life must be behind that veil, in the heart of God, not in the world.
   4. Supportive verses and discussion follow.
2. Veil references in the Song of Solomon
   1. Veil is used to hide something from all other men than her beloved.
      1. Song of Solomon 1:7 “Tell me, O you whom my soul loves, Where do you pasture your flock, Where do you make it lie down at noon? For why should I be like one who veils herself Beside the flocks of your companions?”
   2. “…behind your veil”
      1. Song of Solomon 4:1 “How beautiful you are, my darling, How beautiful you are! Your eyes are like doves behind your veil; Your hair is like a flock of goats That have descended from Mount Gilead.
      2. Song of Solomon 4:3 “Your lips are like a scarlet thread, And your mouth is lovely. Your temples are like a slice of a pomegranate Behind your veil.
      3. Song of Solomon 6:7 “Your temples are like a slice of a pomegranate Behind your veil.
3. The Holy Spirit sovereignly bestows spiritual gifts or abilities for service to every believer. Although His restraint of evil in the world today will cease with the rapture,
   1. 2 Thessalonians 2:6-8 And you know what restrains him now, so that in his time he will be revealed. 7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains will do so until he is taken out of the way. 8 Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming;
   2. More about the Holy Spirit
      1. In John 14:26 Jesus told his disciples, “the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you” (John 14:26, ESV).
      2. The Greek word “Parakletos” in this passage is translated “Helper” in the ESV, “Advocate” in the NIV, and “Counselor” in the KJV. The meaning of this word relates “legal counsel.”
      3. “Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment” (John 16:7-8, ESV).
      4. “Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you?” (1 Corinthians 3:16, ESV)
      5. “These are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. For who knows a person’s thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God” (1 Corinthians 2:10-11).
   3. God gives His followers the Holy Spirit so that we may know Him better. Since the Holy Spirit is God’s Spirit, it knows the thoughts of God and reveals those thoughts to believers. The Holy Spirit opens believers’ eyes to the hope of salvation and the inheritance they have in Christ.
   4. Lydia in Acts 16 and the conversion of Lydia and her household. In verse 14, the text says, “The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul.”
      1. Acts 16:14 A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul.
   5. In John 16, Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit, who would convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment (v 8). In John 17, Jesus spoke of having given the apostles the word they would preach to the world (v 8, 18). Jesus also spoke of all who would believe in Him through the apostles’ words (John 17:20).
   6. John 16:13 But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.
4. Veil in general – separated the holy place from the Holy of Holies
   1. Exodus 26:33 You shall hang up the veil under the clasps, and shall bring in the ark of the testimony there within the veil; and the veil shall serve for you as a partition between the holy place and the holy of holies.
   2. Matthew 27:51 And behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth shook and the rocks were split.
5. For us, the veil is effectively removed in Christ. We have access behind the veil.
   1. 2 Corinthians 3:14-16 But their minds were hardened; for until this very day at the reading of the old covenant the same veil remains unlifted, because it is removed in Christ. 15 But to this day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their heart; 16 but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.
6. In Hebrews, our anchor enters within (behind) the veil. This veil is not the physical representation, the holy of holies of the tabernacle, but into the very heart of God, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf. “The man who does not find his safety behind the curtain (veil) becomes a victim of worldly forces that play upon him.” [The Interpreters Bible, volume 11, page 659.]
   1. Hebrews 6:19 This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil,