

## **MARK 15:34 -- THE SON FORSAKEN BY THE FATHER!**

2/20/16 Sat Morn Prayer

*Mar 15:34 And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" which is translated, "MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?"*

It was not the physical suffering that almost overwhelmed Him in His prayer in Gethsemane with “exceeding sorrow,” but the thought and full realization of being forsaken by His Father! Yes indeed! Our Lord and Eternal High Priest know all about actually being forsaken—the one and only time as He was made to be sin for you and for me!!

You and I may feel at times, usually through our own lapses of faith, that God has forsaken us, but we know that He never has and He never will! He has promised:

*Deu 31:6 Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you.*

*Heb 13:5 Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU NOR FORSAKE YOU."*

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- Our Lord made seven statements from the cross, **three of them before** the darkness came:
- (#1-Luk 23:34) **"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do"**;
- (#2-Luk 23:43) **"Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."** and
- (#3-Joh 19:26-27) **"Woman, behold your son....Behold your mother!"**
- When the darkness came, there was silence on His cross, for it was then that (2Co 5:21) **"He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."**
- At the ninth hour, Jesus expressed the agony of His soul when He cried out from the cross,
- (#4- Mk. 15:34) **"MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?"** (see Psa 22:1)  
The darkness symbolized the judgment Jesus experienced when the Father forsook Him. As was so often the case, the people did not understand His words; they thought He was calling for Elijah the prophet. There was not only darkness over the land, but **there was darkness in the minds and hearts** of the people:
- (2Co 4:3-6) **"But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, [4] whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. [5] For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. [6] For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."**
- (Joh 3:16-21) **"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. [17] For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. [18] "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. [19] And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. [20] For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. [21] But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."**
- (Joh 12:35-41) **"Then Jesus said to them, "A little while longer the light is with you. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going. [36] While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light." These things Jesus spoke, and departed, and was hidden from them. [37] But although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him, [38] that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke: "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT? AND TO WHOM HAS THE ARM OF THE LORD BEEN REVEALED?" [39] Therefore they could not believe, because Isaiah said again: [40] "HE HAS BLINDED THEIR EYES AND HARDENED THEIR HEARTS, LEST THEY SHOULD SEE WITH THEIR EYES, LEST THEY SHOULD UNDERSTAND WITH THEIR HEARTS AND TURN, SO THAT I SHOULD HEAL THEM." [41] These things Isaiah said when he saw His glory and spoke of Him."**

- Then Jesus said,
- (#5 – John 19:28) **“I thirst”**, and the kind act of the soldier in giving Jesus a sip of vinegar *“They also gave me gall for my food, And for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.” (Psa 69:21)*, assisted Him in uttering **two more** wonderful statements:
- (#6 – John 19:30) - **“It is finished!”** and *“And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, (#7 – Luke 23:46) - **“Father, INTO YOUR HANDS I COMMIT MY SPIRIT.”**” Having said this, He breathed His last.”* and *“Into Your hand I commit my spirit; You have redeemed me, O LORD God of truth.” (Psa 31:5).*
- **Jesus was not murdered; He willingly laid down His life for us. He was a willing sacrifice for the sins of the world. (Joh 10:11-18) “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. [12] But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. [13] The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. [14] I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. [15] As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. [16] And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd. [17] “Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. [18] No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father.”**
- **Two remarkable events occurred at His death:** there was an earthquake, *Mat 27:51 Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split*. The veil had separated man from God, but now, through His death, Jesus had opened for the whole world a “new and living way” (*Heb 10:12-22*; also see *Joh 14:6*). There had been an earthquake at Sinai when the Law was given (*Exo 19:16-18*), but now the Law was fulfilled in Jesus Christ and its curse removed (*Rom 10:4; Gal 3:10-14*). Through His sacrifice, Jesus had purchased not only freedom from the Law, but also freedom from the entire sacrificial system.
- **It is thrilling to read the witness of the Roman centurion**, especially when you consider that his words could have gotten him into trouble with both the Jews and the Romans. *Mar 15:39 So when the centurion, who stood opposite Him, saw that He cried out like this and breathed His last, he said, “Truly this Man was the Son of God!”*
- **That Jesus Christ is the Son of God is one of Mark’s important themes** (*Mar 1:1, Mar 1:11; Mar 3:11; Mar 5:7; Mar 9:7; Mar 14:61-62*). This makes His servanthood even more wonderful (*Phi 2:1-11*).

## SUMMARY:

- **Be totally assured He will never forsake you!**
- **He did forsake our Lord and Eternal High Priest for a short period to be made sin for you and for me!**
- **To Him be all glory, all honor, all power! He is worthy!**
- **May we, with great love and thanksgiving, beyond description, great worship and pray to Him!**

## When I Survey The Wondrous Cross! – Isaac Watts – sung by Billy Graham Choir

*When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss, And pour contempt on all my pride.*

*Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the death of Christ my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.*

*Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all.  
Thou hast my soul, my life, my all.*

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