

Wheelersburg Baptist Church 4/24/22

Matthew 27:45-50 "My God, My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me?"

*Series: "The Puzzle of the Cross: Learning from Jesus' Seven Sayings"*

- I. Jesus felt the anguish of sin.
  - A. He fulfilled prophecy.
    - 1. Jesus identified with Psalm 22.
    - 2. Jesus accomplished Psalm 22.
  - B. He faced hell for us.
- II. Jesus felt the agony of silence.
  - A. He asked a question.
  - B. He received no answer.
- III. Jesus felt the abandonment of a Son.
  - A. Prior to this He enjoyed sweet communion with His Father.
  - B. On the Cross, He felt the horror of hell.

Make It Personal: In light of what happened on the cross...

- 1. Let us thank Jesus.
- 2. Let us learn from Jesus.
- 3. Let us hate the sin that brought such agony on Jesus.
- 4. Let us never forget that He endured the pain of being *alone* so that we might never be *alone* again.

Community Group Discussion:

*Questions regarding Jesus' second saying (if your group didn't meet last week)...*

1. In Jesus' second saying from the cross, He speaks to a criminal. At first this "thief" was attacking Jesus (Matthew 27:44), while moments later, he was defending Jesus. What made the difference?

2. Suppose a friend said to you, "I have wasted my life. I wish I could change my past, but I can't. Eternity is staring at me, and I am afraid. I have never been religious. Is it too late for me?" How could you use the incident of the repentant thief to help your friend?

*Questions regarding today's message...*

1. In His fourth saying, Jesus cries out, not "My Father," but "My God." Why is that significant?

2. On Good Friday, the Light of the world was hanging in darkness from noon until 3 pm. Meditate on that sobering reality. What was Jesus feeling when He said He was "forsaken" by God?

3. A key that helps unlock the mystery of Jesus' fourth saying is 2 Corinthians 5:21. What actually happened during those three dark hours of anguish on the cross?

4. In His prayer, Jesus cried, "Why?" Is it appropriate for us to ask "Why" when we pray? When is it inappropriate?

5. In light of Jesus' fourth saying from the cross, what should be our attitude towards sin in our lives?