

## Saying: No 4

### Scripture: Matt 27 v 46

45 Now from the sixth hour until the ninth hour there was darkness over all the land.

46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani"? that is, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me"?

### Mark 15 v 34

33 At the sixth hour darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour.

34 And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani"? which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me"?

These very words can be read in Psalm 22 v 1 "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me"?

There are many Psalms, which are termed as being Messianic, that is they are Psalms that relate directly to the Lord Jesus Christ long before He came to the earth. For instance, Psalm 22 is about **Christ the Saviour**. Psalm 23 as **Christ the Shepherd**. Psalm 24 as **Christ the Sovereign**.

### The Forth fold gospel Says.

We can imagine what it would mean to a righteous man to feel that he was forsaken of God. But the more we feel and enjoy the love of another, the greater our sense of loss at being deprived of it. Considering, therefore, the near and dear relationship between the Son and Father, it is evident that we can never know or fathom the depth of anguish which this cry expressed. Suffice it to say, that this was without doubt the most excruciating of all Christ's sufferings, and it, too, was a suffering in our stead.

### William Burkitts notes on the N.T.

His sight was tormented with the scornful gestures of those who passed by, wagging their heads. His hearing grieved with taunts and jeers of the priests and people. His smelling offended with noisome savours in the place of skulls. His taste with the gall and vinegar given him to drink.

His feeling was wonderfully affected by the nails which pierced his tender nerves with a multiplicity of wounds; and for the depth of his passion, it was as deep as hell itself; enduring tortures in his soul, as well as torments in his body; groaning under the burden of desertion, and crying out, My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?

Lastly, For the height of his passion, his sufferings were as high as heaven, his person being infinite as well as innocent, no less than the Son of God, which adds infinite worth and value to his sufferings, Lord, Let us be able to comprehend with all saints, what is the breadth and length, depth and height, of our Saviour's love, in suffering for us, and let us know that love of his which passed knowledge.

In considering this forth saying from the Cross, we need to observe that this was.

## 1. The Cry of an innocent man

His conviction was on the evidence of false witnesses.

Because Jesus said He had said certain things, which the priests could not understand and were unacceptable to them. They set Jesus up by using false witnesses. Listen to these words on how Jesus was set up.

### **Matt 26 v 59 to 68**

59 The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death.

60 But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward. Finally two came forward

61 and declared, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.'"

62 Then the high priest stood up and said to Jesus, "Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?"

63 But Jesus remained silent. The high priest said to him, "I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God."

64 "Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied. "But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven."

65 Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy.

66 What do you think?" "He is worthy of death," they answered.

67 Then they spat in his face and struck him with their fists. Others slapped him

68 and said, "Prophecy to us, Christ. Who hit you?"

A great deal of hurt can be caused by being wrongly accused of something, ones reputation can be wiped out in a moment of time. The scribes and Pharisees had been trying for a long time

to get rid of Jesus, now they succeeded by false witnesses testifying against Him. This was the cry of an innocent man. Then it was.

## 2. The Cry of an ill-treated man.

**Mattt 27 v 26** *Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged and handed him over to be crucified. man*

28 *They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him,*

29 *and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand and knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said.*

30 *They spat on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again.*

31 *After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.*

It one thing to be wrongly arrested it is another to be ill-treated once arrested, this is what happened top Jesus. The treatment measured out to him was far worse than that of any of the men. We do not read that the others had their face slapped; we don't read that they were flogged; we don't read that they were blindfolded beat and spit at. This was the cry of an ill-treated man. Then it was.

## 3. The Cry of an Interposing man

By going to the cross and doing what He did, Jesus was stepping in on our behalf. When David fought Goliath, he actually stepped in on behalf of the nation of Israel. When Jesus went to the cross He was stepping in for us.

He stripped the principalities and powers of darkness on our behalf, what we could not do he did. Whilst suffering the pain and agony of the cross and the ill treatment even though innocent of all the pain He was going Jesus was winning a battle on behalf of humanity. Yes I know that on the cross He said "*My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me*"? But this was because of what He was going through and what He was feeling.

Jesus interposed on the cross. He stepped into your shoes, He paid the penalty for your guilt, He received the punishment for your sin. It says in **1 Peter 2 v 24** *Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.*

This interposing by Jesus was something remarkable. When the Angel of death passed over the land of Egypt during the days of Moses, houses that had blood on the door posts and lintels

of their homes were passed over. It was the blood that stepped in to stop death reaching the people. The Blood of Jesus stops eternal punishment, which is separation eternally from God affecting us.

The words "*My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me*"? Were said by Jesus as He was experiencing the chastisement of the cross. As God was laying the iniquity of us all on Him. Jesus cries out to His Father. Why is it you have left me in this set of circumstances, why have you abandoned me whilst I am going through this experience without you near me?.

The Father had to leave Jesus to face Calvary. Jesus had to make peace with God on behalf of man, without the Fathers help, Jesus could only make amends for the sin of the world if He did it as a sinless man.

When your son or daughter has a difficulty to face, it is better that they face it head on by themselves, it would be easy to intervene and help them. However it is far better for them to be victorious. Jesus was in a battle, but the Father left him to it. He was still his Father and nothing could change that. When He said these words "*My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me*"?. He was saying why have to left me to fight this battle alone.

Jesus won the victory of the cross on His own, The Father allowed the iniquity of us all to be laid on Him; he bore it and triumphed in it. The Father left Him to face Calvary, but never left Him to in Hell Acts 2 v 27 Because *thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.*