

BTM 03-1 Christ on the Cross (3-7-21)
The Forsaken Christ (Matt 27:45-46)

I. Feeling Forsaken

1. An ancient and common question (Job 10:1-6)
2. Echoing the Cry of David (Psa 22)
3. When does this phrase occur?

II. Theology of “God Forsaken”

1. Jesus separation was genuine
2. Bigger than a crucifixion

BTM 03-1 Questions for Discussion

1. Were you surprised to see some of the great minds of the Christian faith (Luther and Spurgeon) overwhelmed by this passage? Is it appropriate that some sections of scripture should cause us perplexity?
2. Have you ever asked of God “Do you know what it feels like to be me?” Is it a good question? Is it understandable? Why or why not?
3. Explain the difference between conceptual and experiential knowledge. Can you think of any way in which Jesus failed to “get” the human experience?
4. Take a moment to read Psalm 22. How does this passage seem to prophetically speak to Jesus’ situation?

3. This is God dealing with God

III. What Are We Meant to Take Away?

1. He was forsaken for the forsaken (Gal 3:13, 2 Cor 5:21)
2. He knows what it’s like
3. This was part of the plan (Gal 3:13)

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5. Why is it significant that Jesus’ words were preserved exactly as he said them?
6. What kinds of doubts do you think may have afflicted Jesus as He hung there? Do you think he had perfect understanding of what was happening or that he was acting in faith without knowledge? What scriptures back your reasoning?
7. Explain how Jesus’ crucifixion was different than any other Roman execution... what was going on that made this event unique in world history?
8. What is your take-away from this passage? What does it teach you about God? The atonement? Yourself?