My God, My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me?

Adam Willingham · Psalm 22:1

INTRODUCTION

- I want to talk to you this morning about one of the most famous and controversial things that Jesus ever said.
- So that's the kind of forsaking we're talking about, a spiritual forsaking, a spiritual separation, if God indeed forsook Jesus.
- Many doctrines are affected by this. And many doctrines are created as a result of the wrong understanding of this.

1 The View That God Did Forsake Jesus

2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 6:23; Isaiah 59:2

- That Jesus literally and actually took the guilt of all of the sins of all of the world upon him.
- For he made him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him.
- So it is our sin that causes God to separate from us.
- Whenever the argument becomes, well, since Jesus became actually guilty of our sins, God turned his face away for a brief time.
- The only way he would have been in such agony is if he knew that he was going to not only die on the cross, but be forsaken by God.

2 Nowhere Does the Bible Say Jesus Was Forsaken

Psalm 22:24; 2 Corinthians 5:21

- Nowhere does the Bible say that Jesus was forsaken.
- Simply asking the question, My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Does not prove that God has forsaken you. Because it didn't prove it with David.
- Though the passage says that Christ was made to be sin, it does not at all say how.
- So this position that God forsook Jesus really raises more questions than it answers.

3 The View That God Did Not Forsake Jesus

Hebrews 13:5; Psalm 22:24; Psalm 22:16–18

- This was God's plan from all eternity to send his son.
- Are we to believe that in light of the promise, I will never leave you nor forsake you?
- Because, brethren, this promise is for every faithful disciple. Without exception.

- For he has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, nor has he hidden his face from him. But when he cried to him for help, he heard.
- And the point is, nor has God hidden his face from Jesus.

4 Jesus Knew the Plan Exactly

1 Peter 1:20; Hebrews 10:5–7

- If he didn't know on the cross, he didn't know any earlier. So that's inconsistent.
- If the answer to the question is yes, Jesus did know why he was forsaken, then why did he ask the question?
- For he was foreknown before the foundation of the world. But in these last days has appeared for the sake of you.
- Then I said, Behold, I have come. In the scroll of the book, it is written of me to do your will, O God.

5 He Became Sin in the Sense of a Sin Offering

2 Corinthians 5:21; Isaiah 53:4–12; Hebrews 4:15

- He became sin in the sense that he became a sin offering. That's the answer.
- We esteemed him smitten by God. Do you see the difference? He appeared to be smitten by God.
- He was wounded for our transgressions. He was bruised for our iniquities. He bore the punishment that we deserve.
- He took our punishment, not our guilt.
- He suffered as if he were a sinner, though he was not. That's the point of 2 Corinthians 5 21.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **We need to die to sin. We need to be done with it. We need to put it to death, and we need to put ourselves to death. That old man needs to be dead. And we need to live to righteousness.**

MY NOTES