

Mark 15:33-41 – Christ Endured Being Forsaken and dying for you

PNT, TSK, GreekLexicon, Gill, Geneva, Vincent, Handfuls, Rienecker, Poole, PS34, Trapp, Robertson, Henry, Clarke, Calvin,

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ: Jesus truly loved you and he showed it. He **obeyed his Father throughout his life for you**, he was **betrayed for you**, **abandoned for you**, **denied for you**, **falsely accused for you**, **condemned by the religious leaders for you**, **tried and innocently condemned by civil leaders for you**, **he endured mental and physical tortures before his crucifixion for you**, and had to **endure the painful and shameful cross for you**. But all these things were still not enough to satisfy his Father's anger against your sins – so bad your sins were! Jesus needed to be punished more...and worst punishment ever: He had to be **forsaken by the Father and die for you**. This is what you will hear about today.

Our headings are:

Forsaken and died

Forgiven and delivered

Followed and determined

Our goals are: **That you will be reduced to sadness and tears when you know what you truly deserved, but you will rejoice with gladness and tears of joy when you see what the Lord Jesus endured for you and you will then follow him more faithfully.**

Forsaken and died

33 Now when the **sixth hour** had come, there was **darkness over the whole land** until the ninth hour. 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?**"

1. Darkness came upon the whole land from 12:00 noon to 3:00PM, as Jesus silently hanged on the cross.

This was not a regular eclipse but a miracle. (Eclipses don't last for 3 hours.) **This darkness marked the death of the Sun of Righteousness for the sins of the world.** This darkness was described as thick darkness.

This was a sign above the earth to prove who Jesus was: The Son of God!

2. Jesus felt the pain of being forsaken and cried out with a loud voice: "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?"

The loud voice showed he was in extreme mental and physical pain and agony. From the nails? Yes, but more. **His Father turned his face away from him.** He had the legal position of **having man's sin in him!** God could not look at sin. So God withheld his kind providence from him. In the past, angels helped Jesus, but not now! This cry was prophesied 1000 years before.

Psalms 22:1 My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from helping Me, And from the words of My groaning...

Jesus **did not complain about being abandoned, denied, betrayed, spat on, beaten, taunted, stripped naked, and crucified!** But when his Father forsook him, it was almost too much to bear.

But Jesus was only rejected by his Father as man. The Divine **Son of God could never be rejected** or separated from God.

3. There were earthquakes on the earth and rocks split open, showing God's anger. (Mt 27)

Psalms 18:7 Then the **earth shook and trembled**; The foundations of the hills also quaked and were shaken, Because He was angry.

Nahum 1:5 The **mountains quake** before Him, The hills melt, And the earth heaves at His presence, Yes, the world and all who dwell in it. 6 Who can stand before His indignation...

God pictured his anger against sin, an anger that was seen and felt.

This was a sign below the earth to prove who Jesus was: the Son of God.

After the earthquakes many dead believers were miraculously raised to life, their tombs opened, and they went into Jerusalem to be seen and heard.

Matthew 27:51 ... and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, 52 and the **graves were opened**; and **many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised**; 53 and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, **they went into the holy city and appeared to many.**

This miracle showed victory of sin, death, and hell through Jesus Christ – alone.

This is a rejection of dispensationalism. Man is only saved through Christ.

4. There was something very significant about the time – 3:00PM – when Jesus cried about being forsaken.

That was the time when the daily sacrifice (which pictured Christ's work) was killed and offered for God's people!

35 Some of those who stood by, when they heard that, said, "Look, He is calling for Elijah!" 36 Then someone ran and filled a sponge full of sour wine, put it on a reed, and offered it to Him to drink, saying, "Let Him alone; let us see if Elijah will come to take Him down."

5. When some people heard what Jesus said, they mocked him, thinking he was calling for Elijah to take him down from the cross.

Elijah (or one coming in the spirit of Elijah) was promised by God as the Forerunner to Messiah. Having been convinced that

Jesus was not the Son of God, they were sure that he was not calling on his Father (Eloi – My God) **but he was calling on the prophet coming in the name of Elijah** (My God is Jehovah). But Jesus was speaking to his Father. How ignorant they were!

6. Jesus then said he was thirsty and someone gave him some sour wine to drink instead of water.

What contempt! He needed water...but they would not give it to him. He tasted the sour wine. John 19.

37 And Jesus cried out with a loud voice, and breathed His last.

7. Then Jesus, crying out loudly for a second time, died, being forsaken by the Father, carrying the curse of man on his head.

This giving up of his life confirmed that **he was dying a voluntary death**; he was a willing sacrifice for sins.

Luke 23:46 And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, **'into Your hands I commit My spirit.'**" Having said this, He breathed His last.

If Jesus had taken too long to die they would have taken a hammer and broken his thigh bones so he could choke to death faster, but the Lord has prophesied that none of his bones would be broken.

Numbers 9:12 'They shall leave none of it until morning, nor break one of its bones. According to all the ordinances of the Passover they shall keep it.

Psalms 34:20 He guards all his bones; Not one of them is broken.

To verify that Jesus had indeed died, someone took a spear and thrust it into his side and blood and water gushed out.

8. Lessons:

a. God the Father forsook his own Son and let him die for you, and the Father had to, for that is what your sins deserved.

Corinthians 5:21 For **He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us**, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

b. It is good to be able to commend your spirit to God when you are about to die, but God will only receive it if your spirit has been washed clean by the blood of Jesus.

Rejoice! You can die without fear. **These were the same words many who have died for their faith have cried out**, including Thomas Cranmer. (Lord Jesus, into your hands I commit my spirit.)

c. Don't be surprised that men would say cruel and even mocking things about Jesus.

Remember, they don't know him. Speak of him so they know.

Forgiven and Delivered

38 Then the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.

1. After Jesus died the thick veil (about 10cm thick) was torn in two from the top to the bottom.

This showed this was the work of God. No one had that strength, let alone do it from about 60 feet high!

The tearing of the thick veil meant that the ordinary man had access to God directly. Christ's blood was shed for him. Man no longer needed a priest to go in there once per year to pray for him. Man need not fear death. All his sins were forgiven. What a deliverance! Before, if the high priest had sin in his life and had not made sacrifice for himself before he entered the Holy of Holies, he was killed by the Lord. But not anymore!

Hebrews 10:19 Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh,

The tearing of the veil was a sign between heaven and earth to prove who Jesus was: The Son of God.

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!"

2. The centurion who stood nearby testified Jesus was the Son of God.

The centurion did not say this only because of Jesus' words and the way that he suffered. He said this because he saw the work of God in the thick darkness, the earthquake, and the fires that accompanied the earthquakes. He was confident Jesus was the Son of God.

Matthew: He feared greatly!

Luke: He was a righteous man!

The centurion knew Christ was King and Judge.

It is obvious someone was teaching him of the coming Messiah!

Sadly, the Gentile recognized Jesus but the Jews didn't!

3. Lessons:

a. Jesus died as a convicted criminal, in a painful and shameful way, even forsaken by his father, in your place! As a result the world was forgiven and you see it in the confession of the Roman soldier.

b. The veil (body) of Christ (pictured by the veil in the temple) not only opened your way to God, but it is the means by which God opened up heaven to you. Hanging between heaven and earth, Christ's body was the veil that opened up heaven for you.

Hebrews 10:19 Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh...

So the veil is your victory! You will be raised from the dead because Christ was raised from the dead. You have been delivered from hell and hopelessness.

b. Jesus not only saved you, he guaranteed you access to your heavenly Father so you can ask for anything you need to do the work he expects of you.

c. Even the most wicked can believe in Jesus and gain access to heaven...even the one you think is most hopeless! Don't ever stop proclaiming the Gospel.

Followed and Determined

40 There were also women looking on from afar, among whom were **Mary Magdalene**, **Mary** the mother of James the Less and of Joses, and **Salome**,

1. A number of people followed Jesus from Galilee and watched him as he suffered and died.

Those who were there included Mary Magdalene (out of whom the Lord had cast 7 demons), Mary the mother of James and Joses (Jesus' aunt), and Salome (James and John's mother). John and Jesus' mother, Mary, likely had left from sadness. Gazing on Jesus as he died was prophesied.

Zechariah 12:10 "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; **then they will look on Me whom they pierced.** Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

Where were the men who said they would never leave him? They did not follow him.

41 who also **followed Him** and **ministered to Him** when He was in Galilee, and many other women who came up with Him to Jerusalem.

2. These believers (mostly women) knew Jesus had come to die, and they followed him to Jerusalem ministering to his needs.

They followed him **wherever he went.** **These women were "last to the cross, first to the tomb."**

They followed him **wherever they went** after had ascended to heaven, **living for him and proclaiming him!**

3. Lessons:

a. The saved look regularly to the cross and continue to follow the Lord. Without the cross there is no reason to follow the Lord, there is **no Gospel**, and there is **no salvation!** **Never get tired looking at the cross!**

b. See the value of women! Courage, service, persistency! Look for a wife like this! Raise your girls not to run from troubles, but to be tough! Being the 'weaker sex' doesn't mean women are weak!

Conclusion:

The holy Father had to forsake the Son and let him die because the world's sin was on him. As a result, man's sins were forgiven and man could now follow the Lord.

Beloved in Jesus Christ:

1. Knowing what Christ has done for you, do you mourn daily for your sins? Do you confess your sins regularly? Do you realize how much your sins cost him?

2. Knowing what Christ has done for you, are you learning how to following him? Do you read good books to improve your life...to learn how to serve your family...to learn how to work in the church...to learn how to share the Gospel with the lost? Are you growing strong and more determined?

3. Knowing what Christ has done for you, how well are you worshipping him? Do you survive (tolerate) worship on Sundays? Do you struggle to stay awake? Or do you come eager to hear your Savior speak?

Finally: Without Christ's death all men are heading to hell. If you don't want to go to hell, ask God to count Christ's death as yours. That is the only thing that would save you! Do it today.