th Word Of Anguish: My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me (Matt 27:46)

Of all the words spoken from the cross, surely these are the most profound Here is the Spotless Lamb of God offered up & consumed in God's wrath 33 years Jesus had unbroken fellowship with the Father – now cast off

I. The Evil Nature of Sin and the Impossible Cost of Its Wages The cross makes all clear: evil nature of sin, hatred of Satan against man... The holy nature of God, His unflinching justice, unparalleled grace Sin excludes man from God's presence (2 Thess 1:9; Rev 20:4)

II. The Absolute Holiness of God and His Inflexible Justice

- 1. Depravity of man: with wicked hands crucifying the perfect One
- 2. Wickedness of Satan: hatred against the sons of Adam, bruising the heel
- 3. Jesus gives up His life no man takes it from Him, He lays it down
- 4. God's Holiness & Justice satisfied: His wrath upon Christ on the cross

III. It's What Caused Jesus Such Sorrow in Gethsemane Let the cup pass from me...in agony, great sweat drops of blood (Lk 22:44)

IV. The Savior's Unflinching Faithfulness to God

• Through the darkness of abandonment Jesus' faith firmly clung to God

V. Here is the Heart of our Salvation

• God is Holy & just; God is love & mercy – therefore Jesus is our substitute

VI. Here is the Greatest Proof of Christ's Love

• Jesus lays down His life for His friends (John 13:1)