

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Matthew 27:45-50**.
- B. This is the third in a sermon series on the sayings of Jesus while on the cross. Jesus said seven very important things while being crucified and they deserve our study.
- C. This series will continue next Sunday night, Lord willing.
- D. The seven sayings are:
 - 1. "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing" (Lk. 23:34).
 - 2. "Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise" (Lk. 23:43).
 - 3. "Woman, behold, your son!" **27** Then He said^a to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" (Jn. 19:26-27)
 - 4. "MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAST THOU FORSAKEN ME?" (Mt. 27:46).
 - 5. "I am thirsty" (Jn. 19:28).
 - 6. "It is finished!" (Jn. 19:30).
 - 7. "Father, INTO THY HANDS I COMMIT MY SPIRIT" (Lk. 23:46).
- E. Tonight's lesson comes from Mt. 27:46:
"MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAST THOU FORSAKEN ME?"

I. THIS SAYING IS JESUS QUOTING SCRIPTURE.

- A. Scripture texts: **Mt. 27:46; Psalms 22:1-18**.
- B. Jesus is quoting from the Psalms when He utters this saying. All of the 22nd Psalm is fitting for speaking about the overcoming of enemies.
- C. Jesus handled crisis situations with scripture (see Mt. 4). This is no different.
- D. Psalm 22 is most prophetic and instructional in viewing the crucifixion. Some points to consider:
 - 1. God is the deliverer (**22:1-5**).
 - 2. God delivers sinners (**22:6-8**).
 - 3. Troubles are everywhere (**22:11-15**).
 - a. The apostles except John have fled.
 - b. J must die.
 - c. The Jews have rejected the X.
 - 4. The prophecy of X's death (**22:16-18**).

II. THE REAL NATURE OF SIN IS SEEN IN JESUS' STATEMENT.

- A. Sin means separation from God (Isa. 59:1-2).
Behold, the LORD'S hand is not so short That it cannot save; Neither is His ear so dull That it cannot hear. 2 But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, And your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He does not hear.
- B. There is hardship, agony, and pain for the sinner (transgressor), see Prov. 13:15.
Good understanding produces favor, But the way of the treacherous is hard.
- C. The Gentiles (non-covenant people) have no hope, separated, excluded, and strangers to the covenant (Eph. 2:1).
And you were dead in your trespasses and sins,...
- D. Ex.: Story of girl lost in a forest running faster and faster due to being scared. She is unknowingly being cut by the trees and bushes because of her fright of being lost.

III. MAN'S CONDITION AND GOD'S ANSWER.

- A. All men are lost without X (Rom. 3:10, 23; Ac. 4:12; 2Th. 1:8).
(Ac 4:12) "And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved."

(Rom 3:10, 23) ...as it is written, "THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE;" [23] for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,...

(2Th 1:8) ...dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

- B. If only all man and women could come to a knowledge and understanding of the gravity of sin as X did while on the cross!
- C. The answer to X's question did not come immediately. Usually, the more difficult the problem--the longer in coming is the answer.
- D. The answer is that God did forsake X, while He was on the cross because J has become sin on our behalf (2Cor. 5:21).
He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.
- E. But on the third day God raised Jesus from the dead. The answer is found in Mt. 28:6.
"He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying."
- F. We serve a risen Savior (Rev. 1:18).
...and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. We must come to grips with our own sin. We must know of the separation that we have with God because of sin. We cannot rationalize it away.
- B. This saying of Jesus should show us the true nature of sin and how it breaks fellowship with God.
- C. But also realize that Jesus became sin on our behalf that we might become the righteousness of God in Him (2Cor. 5:21).
- D. Jesus died so that we can overcome the sin, He so keenly felt.
- E. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring-Xians.