

The Fourth Cry from the Cross
My God, My God, Why Hast Thou Forsaken Me?
Matt 27:46

Introduction

- A. Jesus Christ came to set us prisoners free.
- B. What has bound us -- our sin, the world and Satan -- is so powerful no one -- not even an Arch-Angel as Michael or Gabriel could set us free.
- C. Only Jesus Christ could release us from our bondage.
- D. This fourth cry - the agonizing cry of dereliction - reveals the very nature of our sin and its power -- sin separates us from God. Sin has driven an eternal wedge between the True and Living God and each of us. That wedge, that bondage could only be broken by the One Whose cry of agony we now hear: My God, My God Why Has Thou Forsaken Me?

I. The Cry of the Lord Jesus is an EXPLANATION.

- A. In this unanswered cry we have a revelation -- of what it took to set us free from sin, the world and Satan.
- B. It is the cry of an innocent and holy Substitute.
- C. Do you understand? He is trying to say to us that we cannot treat sin lightly. There is nothing, absolutely nothing more serious, more destructive, more death producing -- nothing that produces more eternal [ETERNAL] consequences of pain, fear, separation, remorse and judgment -- than sin.
- D. In this fourth cry -- we hear the explanation of the Lord Jesus Who is suffering our eternal judgment.

II. The Cry of the Lord Jesus is a WARNING.

- A. What we hear in this mournful, confused, and unanswered cry of the Lord Jesus is a picture of the eternal state of those who refuse to acknowledge they were prisoners to sin.
- B. What we hear is the agony and description of Hell itself.
- C. This fourth cry should shock each of us into a serious examination as to whether we have truly repented of our sin -- or whether we are just religious
- D. Many of us have been raised in a Christian home and Church. Many of us are like that man in the Bible whom we would call a COVENANT CHILD, who was a leader in his Church and community, and, he was so respected and had such a high regard for righteousness -- that he was made a member of the Supreme Court. His name was Nicodemus. When he met the Lord Jesus -- our Savior told him he had to be born again. You see -- he had never truly repented -- he was just as many of us may be today -- he was just religious.

E. This fourth cry is a WARNING. Some of us may not hear it. Some of you may be saying to yourself, "God won't send me to Hell -- I'm a righteous person and a member of the Church!" I agree with you. God won't -- but you will. You will send yourself to Hell -- if you do not heed this warning and repent for your pride, self-righteousness, and false belief.

F. This fourth cry is a serious WARNING to each of us.

III. The Cry of the Lord Jesus is a Testimony of Divine Provision.

A. The Lord Jesus took our place of judgment.

B. In this historical and substitution act of atonement He has opened Heaven -- for all who will confess they are prisoners under sin - and ask Him for forgiveness.

C. In that moment -- blessed moment -- when we by His grace -- confess, repent and receive Him into our life as our Savior and Lord -- all the value of His atoning work is given to us.

D. I trust each of us -- have received Him in that way.

Conclusion: This fourth cry of our Savior is AN EXPLANATION -- A WARNING -- AND A TESTIMONY OF A DIVINE PROVISION -- may our Lord open our eyes to understand what the Lord Jesus said to us so many years ago.