

My God, My God why
have You forsaken
Me?

Introduction

- Fulfills prophecy
- Nature of His suffering
- His suffering was real
- Affirms God to be His Father
- Represented humanity calling out to God
- Future Prophecy

Fulfills prophecy (Psalm 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?
- **6** – But I am a worm, and no man; A reproach of men, and despised by the people.
- **8** – “He trusted in the Lord, let Him rescue Him; Let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him!”
- **16-18** – "They have pierced My hands and My feet, I can count all My bones; they look and stare at Me; they divide My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots."



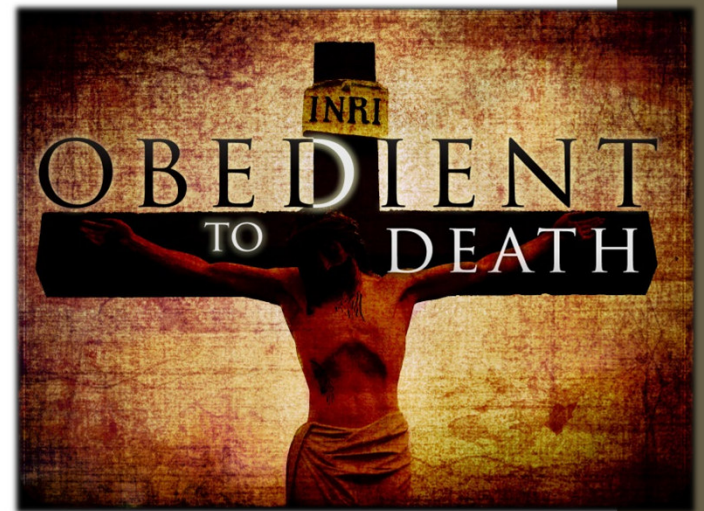
Nature of His suffering

- “This statement does not mean a separation of the divine nature of Jesus Christ from His human nature, nor does it mean that the Father has forsaken the Son. It means rather that the Father has allowed Him to be tormented.”



Nature of His suffering

- “Thus, the Father allowed that the Son should suffer, and the Son accepted that ordinance and was also afflicted by it. In fact Christ came to the world for that particular reason...It was a rupture that both parties preconceived and agreed to... for the sake of humanity, and the Divine Justice...”



Divine and Human

- “His divine nature and His human nature were never separated for a single moment or a wink of the eye. That is what we firmly believe”
- "Believe Me that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me" (John 14:1).
- Not forsaken in relationship, but allowed to be tormented.

Heavenly Throne

- Clearly then you will be able to understand the saying “Why have you forsaken me?” when you compare the glory Christ had in the presence of the Father with the contempt he sustained on the cross, for his throne was “like the sun in the presence of God and like the moon established forever; and he was his faithful witness in heaven.” (Origen)



His suffering was real

- “It does not mean a separation; It indicates only that the Father did allow that He should suffer; that He should bear the blame and suffer God's wrath over sin. That goes for the emotional torment He underwent. As for the physical pain; God allowed that He should suffer physically though God, in His omnipotence, could have made Him insensible to pain. But, if that had happened, the Crucifixion would have been null and void - for pain would never have been experienced and consequently, no penalty has been inflicted, no acquittal effected and no redemption accomplished”

Burnt Sacrifice

- “The word "Forsaken " means that the torment of Crucifixion was actual and that God's wrath was excruciating... The act of abandonment was the climax of all torment on the Cross; all torment of redemption... Here Christ resembles a burnt sacrifice. An offering to God for the atonement of sin - to be consumed by the divine fire until it turns to ashes and satisfies fully the Divine Justice..”

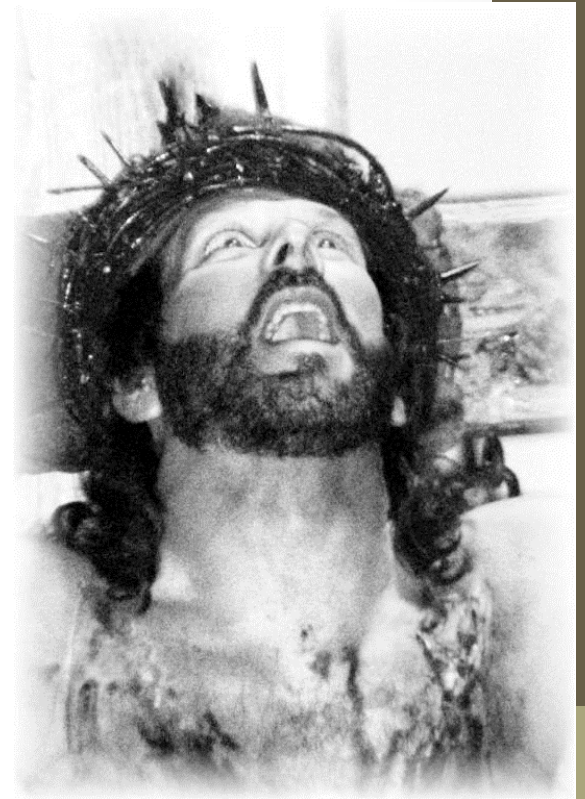


Affirms God to be His Father

- “Why does He speak this way, crying out, ‘Eli, Eli, lama sabach-thani?’ That they might see that to His last breath He honors God as his Father and is no adversary of God. He spoke with the voice of Scripture, uttering a cry from the psalm. Thus even to His last hour he is found bearing witness to the sacred text. He offers this prophetic cry in Hebrew, so as to be plain and intelligible to them, and by all things Jesus shows how He is of one mind with the Father who had begotten him.” (St. John Chrysostom)

Represented humanity calling out to God

- “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, He heard.” (Psalm 22:24)
- God allows us to experience pain and suffering and the feelings of abandonment
- Our faith is tested
- Our faith is strengthened when we can endure what we never believed we could



Obedience in suffering

- “Who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him, called by God as High Priest “according to the order of Melchizedek,” (**Heb 5:7–10**)
- Experienced pain
- Had faith
- Fervent prayers
- Reverence to God, not reviling
- Learned obedience
- “though He was a Son” – did not feel entitled
- Result was the completion of His perfect work of salvation
- Reward was He is obeyed as High Priest just as He was obedient

Future Prophecy (Psalm 22)

- **26** The poor shall eat and be satisfied; Those who seek Him will praise the LORD. Let your heart live forever!
- Fulfillment
- **27** All the ends of the world Shall remember and turn to the Lord, And all the families of the nations Shall worship before You.
- Salvation offered for all people
- **28** For the kingdom is the Lord's, And He rules over the nations.
- The devil rules over the world, but God rules over His people

Future Prophecy (Psalm 22)

- **29** All the prosperous of the earth Shall eat and worship; All those who go down to the dust Shall bow before Him, Even he who cannot keep himself alive.
- “In these words he very aptly proclaims the glorious works after his resurrection, which are fulfilled in the calling of people from all nations and by the election of people from the ends of the earth...And we, too, are the poor, who like beggars in the things of God, the word of salvation nourishes with spiritual bread, the life-giving food of the soul, and affords eternal life.” (Eusebius of Caesarea)

Future Prophecy (Psalm 22)

- **30-31** A posterity shall serve Him. It will be recounted of the Lord to the next generation, They will come and declare His righteousness to a people who will be born, That He has done this.
- His name will be declared by those He has saved to the coming generations