

WHY HAD GOD FORSAKEN JESUS?

Matthew 27:27-54

Key verse 46

“About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, ‘Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?’ (which means ‘My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?’)”

Discussion question:

- What does Jesus’ death mean to you? And to the world?

Study questions:

1. What was the ironic truth in the soldiers' mockery? (27-31) What role did Simon play in the crucifixion? (32) What did the soldiers do? (33-36) The other people? (38-44) What can we learn about who Jesus is from these verses Ephesians 1:21-23, Luke 1:35, and Acts 4:12? What can we learn about what Jesus did for us? (Compare Psalm 22:16-18, Isaiah 53:3,4,12; 1 Peter 2:24) How was Scripture fulfilled?
2. What does it mean that the world became dark? (45) What did Jesus cry out? (46) What was Jesus' deepest agony at the cross? (Psalm 22:1-2; Isaiah 59:2; Isaiah 53:6b,12b)
3. What does it mean that the curtain of the temple was torn? (51a, Hebrews 10:19-22) What do these phenomena show? (51b-53, Hebrews 12:26-28, 1 Corinthians 15:20) What made the centurion exclaim? (54)