

“MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?”

Mark 15:33-47

Key Verse: 15:34

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

1. How long had Jesus been on the cross (25,33)? What does the coming of darkness signify (Am 8:9-10)? Read verse 34. As he was dying, why did Jesus quote Psalm 22:1? What do “My God,” and “forsaken” tell us? How is this suffering related to us (Isa 59:2; 2Cor 5:21)?
2. How did some of those near Jesus misunderstand his cry (35-36)? At the moment Jesus died, what happened (37-38)? What does the torn curtain indicate (Heb 10:19-20)?
3. What role did the centurion have in Jesus’ crucifixion and death (39a,44)? What did he see and confess (39b)? Why is his testimony so meaningful then and now (Mk 1:1)?
4. Who watched Jesus die (40)? How had they served Jesus (41)? Why was their presence so important that Mark mentioned their names repeatedly (47; 16:1)?
5. Who was Joseph (42-43)? What motivated him to boldly ask Pilate for Jesus’ body? How did Pilate confirm Jesus’ death and why is this important (44-45)? What is the significance of Jesus’ burial (46; Isa 53:9; Ro 6:4; 1Co 15:4a)?