Title: “Midnight at Mid-day”
Text: Matthew 27:45-47

Target: The moments in your life when you feel as if you haven’t done anything wrong, but yet you feel despair, disjointed, and dejection by God is considered a “dark night of the soul”. Your life is filled with questions that center around God’s lack of presence in a situation or stretch of road that seems like you’re on the way to nowhere from somewhere. You may not feel like this now, but most likely there will be a moment, or you know someone going through it; allow these words today to be comfort for you or someone near you.

Teaching Points:

I. Divine Darkness: (Vs. 45)
   a. Scientific Miracle: “sixth hour to ninth hour”
   b. Symbolic Message: “darkness”
      i. Judgment: Exodus 10:22
      ii. Juxtaposition: John 8:12

II. Sacred Separation: (Vs. 46)
   a. Significant Shout: “cried out”
   b. Strategic Statement: (Direct quote from Psalm 22:1 in Aramaic)
   c. Shift in Standing: “my God, my God”

Special Note: This is the only time Jesus ever refers to God not in the terms of “Abba” or “Father”.

   d. Substitutionary Sacrifice: “forsaken”
      i. Sin Separates: Isaiah 59:2
      ii. Cross was a Curse: Galatians 3:13
      iii. Freedom in Forgiveness: Romans 3:24-25

III. Meaningful Misunderstanding: (Vs. 47)
   a. Rational Ridicule: “Elijah”
      i. Confusion: “Eli, Eli”
      ii. Connection: Malachi 4:5-6
   b. Refused Rescue: Matthew 26:53

BECAUSE JESUS WAS FORSAKEN YOU CAN KNOW THAT:

- THE DARKNESS IS GONE
- THE SILENCE IS BROKEN
- THE ABSENCE IS FILLED

Take Away: Jesus was willing to fulfill Psalm 22 so you could build your life on the foundation of Psalm 23.