

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.