

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

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?”) (Mark 15:34)

1. In this cry, Jesus is declaring that He is the Messiah that was predicted in the Old Testament.
2. In this cry Jesus is teaching us how we are to respond in suffering and abandonment.
3. In this cry, Jesus is exposing the ugliness and consequences of SIN.
4. In this cry, our sins are being ATONED.

He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. (1 John 2:2)

He made him who knew no sin to be sin so that we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Corinthians 5:21)

Surely he took up OUR pain
and bore OUR suffering,
yet we considered him punished by God,

But he was pierced for OUR transgressions,
he was crushed for OUR iniquities;
the punishment that brought US peace was on him,
and by his wounds WE are healed.

WE all, like sheep, have gone astray,
each of US has turned to OUR own way;
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of US all.
(Isaiah 53:4-6)

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand.
(Romans 5:1-2)

5. This cry is a declaration of victory.

After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: “Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.” (Revelation 7:9-10)

Reflection Question:

When was a time that you experienced God’s grace and hope in the midst of great loss or abandonment?