

FORSAKEN

Have you ever felt forsaken and left all alone? This experience happens often in life and many times we are destitute and feel totally abandoned with no hope.

King David experienced this in Psalm 27:10 and found refuge in the Lord God when he said, *"When my father and mother forsake me, then the Lord will take care of me."* Even when those who are nearest and dearest to us fail, the Lord is still our constant refuge.

There is a promise in the Bible -- *"For He Himself has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you"* (Hebrews 13:5). Think of this -- God Himself has promised to always be near and dear to us -- even when all others fail.

And yet -- the Lord Jesus Christ, God's *"only begotten Son,"* cried out while hanging on the Cross, *"My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?"* (Matthew 27:46 & Mark 15:34).

Think of it -- God promised us that He will never forsake us -- and yet -- His very own Son was forsaken at that moment.

Let's look closer into this. Jesus was hanging in anguish on the Cross -- dying a most horrible death possible for man -- and God allowed it as part of His plan to redeem fallen man from sin -- the sin that entered the scene through the disobedience of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Creation -- the sin that was passed down through the ages to all of us -- the sin that holds us captive and without hope.

Yes, God *"so loved us"* (John 3:16) *"that He sent His only begotten Son,"* that if we Believe in Him and Surrender to Him, and Receive Him into our lives, then by His death on the Cross He removed all those sins to make us worthy of becoming His children -- and thereby giving us the promise of entering Heaven one day.

God cannot allow any sin in Heaven. Heaven is perfect, clean, undefiled, and no sin is allowed - - therefore we must deal with our sin problem before we die if we are to have any hope of spending Eternity with Him.

Jesus Christ, God's very own Son, came to earth to redeem us, to pay our penalty, to remove all our sin, to make us new creatures -- worthy of His Heaven.

Jesus Christ actually became our sin -- He took all of our sin (past, present, and future) on Himself on the Cross. That is why God the Father had to turn His back on His beloved Son. For that period God had to close His eyes to the suffering of Jesus. God had to forsake His most precious possession -- so He could bleed, suffer and die in our place -- to take away our sin and make us worthy.

This does not happen automatically -- there is something each person must do to receive this act of Love -- we *"must be Born Again"* (John 3:7) -- we *"must be Saved"* (Acts 16:31) -- we must be made *"New Creations in Christ"* (2 Corinthians 5:17).

This takes place when we confess our sins (1 John 1:9), when we accept God's Love and Forgiveness (Proverbs 3:5,6), when we acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord of our lives (Acts 16:31), when we receive God's Holy Spirit into our hearts (John 14:16,26), and when we surrender completely to God -- heart, soul and might (Deuteronomy 6:5).

God left and forsook His Son Jesus Christ for that moment on the Cross -- so He would not have to leave or forsake us in our sin. Receive His Love Gift today (Ephesians 2:8,9) -- don't put it off -- Believe, Accept, Receive.

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