

**June 16, 2019 – Elmont Baptist Church**

**Message Series: The Gospel of Mark**

**Week 49: “My God, My God...”**

**Text: Mark 15:1-47**

We’re unpacking and understanding the Book of Mark. The Gospel writer’s audience are Roman believers and he writes to help us see Jesus as the Messiah King and Suffering Servant. He works to answer three questions throughout the letter: “Who is Jesus?”, “What did Jesus come to do?”, and “What does Jesus expect of you?”

- We’re going to jump right into it today as the goal is to cover the entire 15<sup>th</sup> chapter in our time together.
- I’ll summarize most of it and then read and deal mostly with v 33-39
  - Chapter 15 begins after Jesus’ trial by the Jewish leaders and Jesus is taken to Pilate to be questioned
  - Pilate gives in to the crowd and delivers Jesus to be crucified, and releases Barabbas instead
  - Jesus is beaten and mocked by the soldiers
  - Jesus carries his cross with the help of a man named Simon and is nailed to the cross with the onlookers still mocking Him
  - At the end of the chapter, Mark is very intentional to tell about the women that were there and the arrangement for Jesus’ burial
  - What we want to deal with are the words of Jesus that Mark records and the events immediately surrounding those words
    - This is a tough text to deal with – much controversy
    - I’ve spent a lot of time wrestling through what Jesus said and the reaction to what He said as that helps us understand what He meant
- My hope is that we better understand and celebrate the victory that was won in Jesus’ death.

Let’s READ our TEXT – v 33-39

Through this passage we can see that...

***Jesus’ death is our victory as He paid for our sin, satisfied God’s justice,  
and gives us the only way to know and love the Father.***

- Reading Jesus’ words in v 34 as a victorious statement is not what we typically do right away
- We talk about Jesus being forsaken by God the Father
- Like I said earlier...
  - This is a tough text to deal with – much controversy
  - I’ve spent a lot of time in prayer, conversations, and reading wrestling through what Jesus said and what it means, and it’s the reaction of the crowd to what He said that helps us understand it better
- The tone of the crowd seems to have changed as they’ve been in sudden darkness for three hours in the middle of the day – that had to catch their attention
- When Jesus says “My God, My God...” they don’t respond as you’d expect – “he’s finally realized that he’s not he Messiah and that God isn’t going to help him.” – but we don’t see the same obvious mocking tone here

- Why do they say what they do and how does this help us understand the victory of Jesus' words? Why the mention of Elijah? Misunderstanding? Language barrier?
  - Before we get there – Jesus isn't just saying what He's feeling. He is quoting Psalm 22:1. A chapter that outlines very closely the events of Jesus' crucifixion a thousand years before. John uses part of Ps 22 (v 18) in his writing of the crucifixion in John 19
  - The last 10 verses speak of God's deliverance and rescue of this afflicted One. Of His ultimate victory
  - In hearing Ps 22:1, those surrounding Jesus, they knew the context and heard the impending promise of deliverance and victory that comes later in the Psalm
  - They didn't hear Jesus denouncing His being the Messiah, but declaring all the more that He is the Messiah
- Why the mention of Elijah? Malachi 4:5 & Mark 9:11
- They were looking to see if His claim of Messiahship would be answered like they thought it should be – Elijah coming to rescue Him
- We know everyone was mistaken all along about how the Messiah would come and establish His Kingdom, but they heard Psalm 22:1 as the first verse of a victory song causing them to pause in the darkness and see if Elijah would come
- For 3 hours Jesus has been absorbing the wrath of God for our sin. It's dark and at the end of this darkness He says three things – “My God, my God...”; “It is finished” (which is the same phrase that ends Psalm 22); and “Father, into Your hands I commit my spirit.”
- Before this we know that Jesus knew what was going to happen to Him – Luke 23:43: “Today you will be with Me...” and John 18:4: “Jesus, knowing all that would happen to him...” – He resolved in the Garden to carry out the Father's will
- Is Jesus now doubting or turning inward? Is there a rift in the Trinity as the Father forsakes the Son (what about v 24 or 2 Tm 2:13)? Or is He quoting the first line of His victory hymn?

## **Jesus' Death is Our Victory as He...**

### ✓ **Paid for Our Sin**

- Atonement
- Darkness – as He absorbed God's wrath against sin

You are going to hear three biblical or theological words today and we need to know them. We need to love them. We need to rejoice in them. The first is atonement. Only Jesus could atone for our sin. He made right of our wrong.

### ✓ **Satisfied God's Justice**

- Propitiation
- Breathed His last

The second theological word is propitiation. John uses this word in 1 John. It means to satisfy a demand for justice. That is what Jesus did here. His death had to happen to satisfy the Father's justice.

✓ **Gives Us the Only Way to Know and Love the Father**

- Reconciliation
- Curtain torn from top to bottom

The third word is reconciliation. That means to bring back together in right relationship. Because Jesus atoned for our sin, and satisfied God's justice, we now can know and love that Father by repentance and belief in the Son which is enabled by the Spirit. God initiates this – from top to bottom. No longer is there a need for priests and human mediators between God and people. Through Christ anyone may come near.

***Jesus' death is our victory as He paid for our sin, satisfied God's justice,  
and gives us the only way to know and love the Father.***

Here's what happens to us: we hear a sermon on the cross and we think "That's nice and all, but I'm good. I trusted Jesus years ago." As though the atonement, propitiation, and reconciliation of Jesus only matter when we die. The victory of the cross changes eternity and life now. Jesus paid for your sin, satisfying the demand for justice, and has given you His level of access to the Father. If you have trusted Jesus, then that reality should be winning victory over your insecurities, in how you love others, in sin that entangles you, in how you love your wives, in how you honor your husbands, in how you teach your children, in how you trust the Lord to provide, and every other detail of your existence. And here's great news on top of that – when you fail in those areas, your sin has already been covered. The victory of the cross is radically extensive and thoroughly saturating. Be thankful for it. Rest in it. Let Christ declare victory in your life right now.