Jesus Christ said: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Mat 27:46) This document is .pdf file format as to be easily printed and shared with those without computers.

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On the day Jesus died, he said something I have long had trouble understanding. As Matthew recorded the account of Jesus's crucifixion:

Matthew 27:45-50 GNB At noon the whole country was covered with darkness, which lasted for three hours. (46) At about three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud shout, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why did you abandon me?" (47) Some of the people standing there heard him and said, "He is calling for Elijah!" (48) One of them ran up at once, took a sponge, soaked it in cheap wine, put it on the end of a stick, and tried to make him drink it. (49) But the others said, "Wait, let us see if Elijah is coming to save him!" (50) Jesus again gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

Even with all he was suffering, Jesus remained concerned with the fulfillment of his Father's will. As John recounted the importance of what he remembered, as well as what must have been that last cry of Jesus:

John 19:28-30 ²⁸ After this, when Jesus knew that by now all things had been accomplished, in order that the scripture *[prophecies]* might be accomplished he said: "I am thirsty." (<u>Psa 22:15</u>) ²⁹ A vessel was sitting there full of sour wine. Therefore they put a sponge full of the sour wine upon a hyssop [stalk] and brought it to his mouth. (<u>Psa 69:21</u>) ³⁰ When, now, he had received the sour wine, Jesus said: "It has been accomplished!" and, bowing his head, he delivered up [his] spirit.

Fulfilled Prophecies:

Psalms 22:15 GNB My throat is as dry as dust, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth. You have left me for dead in the dust.

Psalms 69:21 GNB When I was hungry, they gave me poison; when I was thirsty, they offered me vinegar.

Mark made special note of what was said by the Roman Centurion standing watching Jesus Die.

Mark 15:33-39 ESV And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. (34) And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (35) And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "Behold, he is calling Elijah." (36) And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." (37) And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. (38) And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. (39) And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

And finally, we have Luke's account of the event, but he did not mention Jesus's question to his Father.

Luke 23:44-47 CEV Around noon the sky turned dark and stayed that way until the middle of the afternoon. (45) The sun stopped shining, and the curtain in the temple split down the middle. (46) Jesus shouted, "Father, I put myself in your hands!" Then he died. (47) When the Roman officer saw what had happened, he praised God and said, "Jesus must really have been a good man!"

Jesus was God's son. He came into the world in part to sacrifice his life for you and for me. The painful end of that assignment was never hidden from him, and, he lived in dread of it much of his life. (<u>Luke 12:49-53</u>) It was his Father's assignment and one he volunteered for, (<u>Psa 40:6-10</u>; <u>Isa 6:8</u>; <u>Heb 10:5-10</u>) first to sanctify God's name, (Mat 6:9-13) and then, to provide salvation (Mat 20:25-28) to mankind; salvation to all those

putting faith in the truth Christ brought. (<u>John 18:37</u>) So, having known for much of his life he was headed to his sacrificial death, why on the day of that death would he ask his Father why He had forsaken or abandoned him. My early on somewhat half-hearted lifetime search for God, with the last few years of it including my waking up to my need to approach God through my personal study of the words of his Son Jesus Christ, (<u>Mat 17:5</u>) [while I strictly avoided the doctrines of the <u>churches</u>,] has brought me great joy. (<u>John 15:11-16</u>) That often leads me to prayers God will never let me abandon him or find myself left without his presence. Not having God in my life is nearly too awful for me to think... It was during such a prayer, I believe I have realized more what Jesus meant when he asked his Father why He had abandoned him, and, why he cried out. I guess that was part and parcel of his sacrifice for us.

At nearly 30 years of age, Jesus presented himself to John the Baptist to be baptized in the Jordan in 29 CE. That marked the beginning of his 3 ½ year ministry. (<u>John 18:37</u>) As a sign to signify his Father's approval, John saw Holy Spirit came down out of heaven and settle upon Jesus. (<u>John 1:32-34</u>) That marked a new and very special relationship between Jesus and his Father. God's Spirit coming down out of heaven on him made him the Christ or Messiah [both titles meaning "Anointed One"].

Jesus was born to be a prophet like Moses (Acts 3:19-23; 1 Cor 10:1-4) so he had his Father's blessings from youth, God's Spirit protecting and guiding him. With the visible coming down of God's Spirit on Jesus at his water baptism by John [his water baptism signifying "his presenting himself" to do his Father's will], the visible spirit from heaven proved his anointing by that Spirit was by הוה himself. It was God presenting Jesus to the world. (Luke 3:21-22; Mat 17:5) Jesus accepted and started his ministry, resulting in the preaching of the good news of God's Kingdom all through the earth. That work is just being completed in our day in time. (Mat 24:14) After being anointed by Holy Spirit, then, Jesus had יהוה 's Spirit present with him in a new way, in a way he never had before. That Spirit was present constantly to strengthen and support him through the 3 ½ year preaching work leading toward and to his sacrificial death. He felt his Father's loving presence all that time. It could not be possible for God's Spirit to die, so... When it came time for Jesus to die, his Father removed his Spirit to allow his son to die. Feeling that loss of his Father's Spirit, then, is surely why Jesus cried out. It wasn't that Jesus didn't understand he had to die, or thought his Father abandoned him by the act of allowing his death. (Mat 20:28) He probably could not have imagined ahead of time, however, the loss of that feeling of the presence of his Father in Spirit. He just couldn't help cyring out! יהוה my God and my Father, I cry, I thank you for all the knowledge your son brought us... I thank you for knowing you! (Mal 3:16-4:3)

Jesus was distressed at feeling the loss of his Father's Spirit, but he didn't waver in his faith. He chose to surrender his own life so we might have life in abundance. (John 10:10 of 7-15) Far more

importantly for all, in faith, Jesus was resurrected back to life by his Father. (<u>John 10:17-18</u>) The resurrected Jesus was then seated in heaven and now rules all creation from his Heavenly Throne, where he has been subduing in the midst of his enemies: (<u>Psa 110:1-3</u>) Subduing using his followers to preach the truth; subduing using the sword of his mouth. (<u>Rev 2:16</u>; <u>Rev 19:15</u>) I believe we are now witness to his fulfilling or completing the destruction of all Christ's enemies, including death itself. (<u>1 Cor 15:12-28</u>) Most important for you, though; what do YOU believe?

You seen, then, why I share exuberantly (<u>Psa 110:1-3</u>) that my drawing to הוה 'through my study of the words of Christ; and the Spirit I have gained in my knowledge of Jesus's words, (<u>John 6:63</u>) that makes me happy... I begin to imagine the loss it would be for Jesus not to feel 'יהוה's protection of Spirit. I weep tears of joy in prayers of appreciation for the <u>Sacred Secret</u> of God [the sum total of the knowledge brought by and wrapped up in Jesus Christ]. (Rom 16:25-27)

One way this knowledge can help you, one way we feel our Father's Spirit. is having hope of good. (Eph 2:12-22) In the face of so much bad in our modern world, the Spirit of God we take in through the words of His Christ [Anointed One] grant us hope through Spirit. (John 6:63) "All" righteous and many religious individuals hope for good things from God's hand. (Heb 11:6) Actually following God's command to listen to his Son, (Mark 9:7) and in doing so taking in God's Spirit contained in Christ's words, (John 6:63) is how we receive those "good things." In our knowledge of the words of Christ, we hear his commands to expect God's promises. (Mark 11:24; Mat 18:19; Mat 7:7; John 14:13) Your personal absolute faith in the words of Jesus Christ is your modern day ark of deliverance... Your unwavering faith grants preservation of life! (John 8:51; Job 33:13-30) The indwelling of God's Spirit may well grant you power to preserve your-own-self alive, just by believing it will be so. (John 16:23-24; Mat 9:29; Mat 15:28; Mat 8:13) Of course, it is only your personal faith, your own true belief, that can do that for you... What are you telling others you are expecting to happen in your life? (Mal 3:16-4:3) It is an individual highly personal matter and it really is just that simple! What, again, is hearing as your expression of faith? (Mat 12:36-37; Rom 10:9-10)

Malachi 3:16-4:3 MWT ...At that time those in fear of יהוה spoke with one another. יהוה kept paying attention and listening, so that a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared him and esteemed his name. (17) "They shall be mine, says יהוה of hosts, in the day when I make up my special property (gather my chosen people), and I will protect them just as a man shows compassion for his own son who serves him. (18) Then you will see the distinction between the righteous one and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him. Malachi 4:1-3 MWT "For behold, the day is coming, burning like a furnace, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be like stubble for the flames. The day that is coming shall set them all ablaze, says יהוה of hosts, so that I will leave them neither present life nor future hope. (2) But for you who fear my name, the sun (son) of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. (3) And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act in justice says of hosts.