

Jesus, then God could not behold or look on His Son, and had to hide His face from Him!

Since Scripture tells us that God does behold evil persons and sees the wickedness that they do, perhaps a better translation is that found in the NASB, where it says, "Thine eyes are too pure to approve evil, and Thou canst not look on wickedness with favor."

If it be said that because my sins were charged to Christ, He was viewed as legally guilty, and that therefore God withdrew His smile when He looked at His Son – then this idea has some plausibility as an answer to the question, "What does it mean to be forsaken by God?"

But is this an adequate answer? I think we need to look further.

- C. Does it mean to fail to find God's help and relief and deliverance in the midst of weakness and pain and suffering?

Psalm 22:1 is the source of Jesus' cry on the cross: "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" But the second half of the verse says, "(Why are you) far from my deliverance, (and from) the words of my groaning?" And in other parts of the Psalm this emphasis on a cry for deliverance from suffering is repeated:

verse 2 says: "O my God, I cry by day, but Thou dost not answer; And by night, but I have no rest." (This could be understood to mean that the