

for what seemed like such a long time! "Why have you forsaken me?" He cried.

Yet even though He did not know why, He nevertheless submitted to God's will, and believed in God's goodness and love, and entrusted Himself into the Father's loving care and safe keeping.

What, then, was the purpose of this forsaking?

All that we can say is that only by Jesus' being actually forsaken – not delivered, not helped, not relieved – could the full price of our redemption be paid. It was necessary that He not be delivered from the full weight of our sin or from the full measure of His vicarious suffering until all our guilt and penalty were paid for in full!

"Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;

Sin had left a crimson stain – He washed it white as snow."

Thank God that because Jesus endured, expiated, and exhausted all of our guilt and penalty, there is therefore now no condemnation for those who have been savingly united to Christ by faith!

Thank God that because Jesus drank the cup of the wrath of God to its last bitter dregs, there is not even one drop left for us!

Thank God that Jesus was forsaken by God until the full weight of suffering required for deliverance from our sins was measured out and laid upon our Savior, until He could finally cry out in triumph, "It is finished!" Because Jesus was forsaken, we will never be forsaken by God!