

A Soul in Agony

by Robert Haldane

Robert Haldane explores the profound spiritual agony of Christ during His crucifixion and its implications for humanity's salvation.

Scripture: Matthew 27:46, Romans 8:2, 2 Corinthians 5:21, Galatians 3:13

Topics: "The Cross", "Atonement"

Description

Robert Haldane delves into the profound suffering and sacrifice of Jesus Christ, emphasizing that His pain on the cross went beyond physical agony to encompass the spiritual wrath of God against sin. By becoming a curse for us, Christ endured the spiritual separation from God that sin brings, as symbolized by His crucifixion. Haldane highlights that Jesus' cry of feeling forsaken by God reveals the temporary but intense suffering He bore to atone for our sins and restore communion with God.

Transcript

"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death" (Rom. 8:2).

When sin was condemned or punished in the Son of God, to suppose that He felt nothing more than bodily pain, would be to conclude that He had less confidence in God than many martyrs who have gone to death cheerfully and without fear. The extremity of the pain He suffered when He said in the garden, 'My soul is sorrowful even unto death,' was the sentiment of the wrath of God against sin, from which martyrs felt themselves delivered. For the curse of the law is principally spiritual, namely, privation of communion with God in the sense of His wrath.

Jesus Christ, therefore, was made a curse for us, as the Apostle says, Gal. 3:13, proving it by the declaration, 'Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree.' For this punishment of the cross was the figure and symbol of the spiritual curse of God. As in His body, then, He suffered this most accursed punishment, so likewise in His soul He suffered those pains that are most insupportable, such as are suffered by those finally condemned. But that was only for a short time, the infinity of His person rendering that suffering equivalent to that of an infinity of time.

Such, then, was the grief which He experienced when on the cross He cried, 'My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?' What forsaking was this, unless that for a time God left Him to feel the weight of His indignation against sin? This feeling is the sovereign evil of the soul, in which consists the griefs of eternal

death; as, on the other hand, the sovereign good of the soul, and that in which the happiness of eternal life consists, is to enjoy gracious communion with God.

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