

- 4. The reason He was forsaken was not because He stopped hoping in God and fell into black despair.**

**In the very middle of verse 21 of Psalm 22 the tone of the Psalm changes completely, from one of suffering, harassment, scorn, and cries for deliverance to one of deliverance, exaltation, and victory! In verse 21b the suffering One's cries are answered; and in verses 22-24 we read:**

**I will tell of Thy name to my brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will praise Thee. You who fear the Lord, praise Him; All you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him, And stand in awe of Him, all you descendants of Israel. For He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; Neither has He hid His face from him; But when he cried to Him for help, He heard.**

**In Hebrews 12:2 we are exhorted to fix our eyes on Jesus, "who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."**

**And the last words spoken by our Savior before He breathed His last were, "Father, into Thy hands I commend my spirit."**

**In these and all the other scriptures there is not the slightest hint that Jesus ceased hoping in God and fell into black despair.**