

# Title the Death of Christ Part 1

I will be sharing a 2 part sermon, Part 1 on Christ death and part 2 on His resurrection on Sunday from Ps 22

## Introduction

One thing that I've realized during this lock down period is the sense that Christ has allowed His church to stop meeting physically.

It has changed the nature of our witness, temporarily as it has forced many churches to go online, and the gospel messages are now heralding out to the world via internet in a manner that has never been seen before.

It's as if there is suddenly a mass outreach taking place to the world. Jesus is building His church, and He wants people to come to salvation.

Now the gospel we proclaim is the gospel of Christ death and resurrection.

But its the gospel according to the Scriptures.

*<sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup> that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, 1 Corinthians 15:3–4 (ESV)*

And how do we know that the Scriptures is true and trust worthy: The answer is because of who God is, He is true.

Another indicator of its reliability is fulfilled prophesy.

Ps 22 was written more than 1000 years before the coming of Christ.

Its descriptions of the events of Christ death are so vivid, Asif someone was personally standing at the foot of the cross recording what was happening to Jesus.

David under the inspiration of the HS wrote some of the most detailed descriptions of the cross found in the Scriptures.

Some have called Ps 22 the 5<sup>th</sup> gospel, or the gospel according to David.

There are differences of opinion on the psalm as some think that it mainly refers to sufferings that David experienced being persecuted by his enemies.

But I believe David wrote a prophetic picture of the coming suffering Messiah, His execution, being forsaken by God so that you and I can obtain salvation.

- Reason 1. There were no recorded events in David's life that correspond to this event
- Reason 2 There are specific phrases in the psalm that can only be used for someone undergoing crucifixion
- Reason 3 there is no mention of personal sins, confession of sin or even regret over pains suffered
- Reason 4 What actually happened in the Gospels correspond in minute detail to the accounts in this prophesy.

So this Good Friday in Easter, we celebrate the events of Christ death and resurrection, Ps 22 gives you and I a unique picture of the events that happened on that day, the day they crucified our Saviour.

## **Read Ps 22 :1-21**

### **Proposition**

7 descriptions of Christ suffering and trust in God's deliverance that encourage proclamation and praise despite difficult circumstances.

1. Separation from God vs 1
2. Salvation through trust 3-5
3. Scorn from Man 6-8
4. Steadfast trust through life in God 9-10
5. Suffering and crucifixion 11-18
6. Supplication for deliverance 19-21
7. Speaking highly of Gods salvation 22-31 (Sunday)

# 1. Separation from God vs 1

*TO THE CHOIRMASTER: ACCORDING TO THE DOE OF THE DAWN. A PSALM OF DAVID. <sup>1</sup> My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning? <sup>2</sup> O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest. (Psalm 22:title–2 (ESV)*

**<sup>1</sup> My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

David opens the psalm with a question, that shows feelings of abandonment.

Jesus 4<sup>th</sup> quoted this question on the cross

*<sup>46</sup> And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” Matthew 27:46 (ESV)*

Mark 15:33 describes that darkness had come over the land when Jesus had cried this question out.

Gods familiar protective presence had been withdrawn from Christ.

My God= My Elohim, My God of Strength and power, why have you forsaken me?

This was like the call of a lost child in a shopping centre in which he discovers that mom or dad was not present and they are all alone in the world.

The term forsaken means to abandon or to loosen.

God had purposefully distanced Himself from Jesus as he poured out his wrath upon Him.

This was a cry of desperation, why have you turned your back upon me in my hour of greatest need?

Why do you feel so far from me?

And as he cried out to God day and night, God was not answering Him.

The Holiness and Justice of God caused this temporal abandonment between God the Father and God the son **as your and my sins** were laid upon His shoulders.

*<sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV)*

## Application

1. Are there times in your life that you **feel abandoned** by God?
2. Are there times where you feel Asif He does not hear your cries in the night or your prayers in the day?
3. Know that Jesus **understands that, as He** also went through that reality on the Cross.
4. You have a **Saviour who can emphasise** with those feelings.
5. But the most important thing you need to see is that Jesus went through this abandonment for your sin so that you will not go through abandonment from God in eternity.
6. May that encourage you to rejoice in the fact that you can have a deep personal relationship with God through Jesus.

## 2. Salvation through trust<sup>3-5</sup>

*<sup>3</sup> Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel. <sup>4</sup> In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them. <sup>5</sup> To you they cried and were rescued; in you they trusted and were not put to shame. Psalm 22:3–5 (ESV)*

David expresses the **sense of abandonment, aloneness** in **unanswered prayers**, yet in contrast **God is depicted as holy**, being **exalted or elevated on the praises** of Israel.

David remembers **how His ancestors trusted in God** and **God was faithful to deliver** them.

God had delivered **David many times from the dangers** when he had trusted in Him.

If we fast forward to Christ, the **silence and sense of abandonment** he experienced did not mean God had abandoned **His throne and was** not in control.

In fact, God was still on the throne and **God is still being worshipped**.

God is holy and that's why **he hid his face from** His son, as He could not have fellowship with His Son who became the sin bearer.

So as the psalmist recalls those who trusted in God would be delivered, Jesus entrusted himself to God, and so brought deliverance for mankind.

God is always faithful to deliver those who place their faith in Him.

### **Application**

1. Trust in Jesus for salvation.
2. God is faithful and He will save those who repent and trust in the gospel.
3. God is the Saving God. Jesus means Yahweh saves.
4. Believer who have gone before us, trusted in God and He delivered them, so let that encourage you to trust in God, and trust in His provision of Salvation.

*<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:1–2 (ESV)*

### **3. Scorn from Man 6-8**

*<sup>6</sup> But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people. <sup>7</sup> All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads; <sup>8</sup> "He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!" Psalm 22:6–8 (ESV)*

***But I am a worm and not a man***

This was an expression of reproach.

The treatment Jesus endured was inhumane. The prophet Isaiah described how he was marred beyond the human resemblance.

*<sup>14</sup> As many were astonished at you— his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind— Isaiah 52:14 (ESV)*

He was severely beaten and scourged (whipped him so that they had ripped out pieces of his flesh) Jesus.

*<sup>26</sup> Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified. Matthew 27:26 (ESV)*

**<sup>7</sup> All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads**

Making mouths and wagging their heads meant that they made mocking gestures towards Christ showing **visibly their disgust** at Christ.

*<sup>67</sup> Then they spit in his face and struck him. And some slapped him, <sup>68</sup> saying, “Prophecy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?” Matthew 26:67–68 (ESV)*

*<sup>39</sup> And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads Matthew 27:39 (ESV)*

The mockers insulted him.

**<sup>8</sup> “He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!”**

*<sup>42</sup> “He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. <sup>43</sup> He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’ ” Matthew 27:42–43 (ESV)*

Basically, they were saying, since he committed and delighted himself in Yahweh, that Yahweh should rescue Him.

It is the philosophy that **God is there for your convenience.**

A derived mindset is that God will always let it go well with you, so why is He not saving you.

### **Application**

1. You may encounter this mindset that believers will never face pain and suffering?
2. Or the mindset that God does not exist since there is pain and suffering?
3. Where is your God in this world of pain and suffering?
4. Disciples of Christ will face shame, mocking persecution in this life as they seek to pursue Christ.

*<sup>23</sup> And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. Luke 9:23 (ESV)*

## **4. Steadfast trust through life in God 9-10**

*<sup>9</sup> Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts. <sup>10</sup> On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God. Psalm 22:9–10 (ESV)*

The Hebrew states that You pulled me out of the womb, a possible reference to the virgin birth.

In vs 4-5 The psalmist meditated on God's deliverance in the past to others but here He considers Gods faithful to Him.

He gives a picture of safety and security.

The image of a baby nestled between the breasts of his mother implies a picture of safety, security, warmth and comfort drawn from the presence of his or her mother.

***On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God***

The psalmist meditates on how God had been is object of trust all his life.

As Jesus faced severe suffering, he drew comfort from God's protection, safety, and presence that he had experienced all his life in this world.

In this dark period of His life, He was encouraged and sustained on the memory of God's faithfulness to sustain Him all His life.

### **Illustration**

Who is the one person you run to when you have problems, is it not your parents? They have been with you, they love you and as you remember how they cared for you in the past, it gives you confidence to face whatever you may face in the present.

God is even more faithful than your parents.

### **Application**

He has protected you all your life, provided for you and has even sent His Son Jesus Christ to die for your sins.

When your heart is anxious, when your heart is fearful, remember God's faithfulness to you all your life.

In your biggest trials know that Jesus is with you.

## **5. Suffering and crucifixion 11-18**

*<sup>11</sup> Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help. <sup>12</sup> Many bulls encompass me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me; <sup>13</sup> they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion. <sup>14</sup> I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; <sup>15</sup> my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death. <sup>16</sup> For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet— <sup>17</sup> I can count all my bones— they stare and gloat over me; <sup>18</sup> they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots. Psalm 22:11–18 (ESV)*

Vs 11 expresses a prayer of David, and possibly the heart prayer of Christ.

Don't be far from me, because trouble is near and there is no one to help me.



The most important thing for a **little girl walking through a dark and scary house** is to know that her dad is **next to her holding her hand**.

In times of great trials, great anxiety, your and my prayer, should be God, do not be far from me, because trouble is near. Remember this truth

*<sup>38</sup> For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38–39 (ESV)*

The trouble that Jesus encountered on the **cross was being surrounded by people** pictured by a pack of wild ravenous animals (bulls, lions and dogs).

a picture of brutality:

Vs 12 **The Bulls of Bashan** were large cattle located on a fertile plateau east of Jordan. It was an area know for growing large hefty and powerful animals. It depicts the picture of the powerful and the strong closing in on the weak.

A picture of brutal crowd mentality.

Vs 13 Their open mouths like lions like ravening (tearing and roaring lions)

I've been to a lion kill on a warthog, and what I saw made me chill to my bones at the power, and the savagery and the efficiency of this pack of lions. There was no chance for the warthog. As the big male lines ripped into the victim and tore it literally to pieces.

What is depicted is the blood thirsty savagery of the crowd of people that surrounded the innocent victim, in this case Jesus Christ.

Vs 14-15

*<sup>14</sup> I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; <sup>15</sup> my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.*

Provides a picture of exhaustion, the failing strength and extreme thirst of Christ on the cross.

The tongue sticking to the roof of the mouth depicts Christ thirst on the cross.

*<sup>28</sup> After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst." John 19:28 (ESV)*

You lay me in the dust of death is a reminder of death and specifically of the death of Christ on the cross.

*<sup>19</sup> By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Genesis 3:19 (ESV)*

Death came into this world because of Adamic sin.

Death brings about separation between body and soul.

*<sup>17</sup> For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. Romans 5:17 (ESV)*

As Jesus died, he brought grace and life to those who would trust in His death and resurrection.

***<sup>16</sup> For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet—***

There is some debate about the **term pierced** as the original text uses **the term lion** and so some translations translate it as **like a lion, my hands and feet.**

The reading pierced come from the **LXX (Septuagint, Greek translation of the OT)** written **about 150 BC** and the Latin **Vulgate around 400ad.**

The difference between **Lion and pierced is one letter** in the Hebrew.

In 1997 people discovered in a scroll 1000 years older than the oldest copies near Nahal Hever (5/6HevPsalms) that reads they have **pierced my hands and feet.**

I believe the original reading was pierced. This is a prophetic reference to the wounds Christ endured in His crucifixion.

***17 I can count all my bones— they stare and gloat over me; <sup>18</sup> they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots***

The staring and gloating emphasise **the shame Jesus endured** on the cross but it also showed the **perverted tastes of people** as they enjoy the horrific spectacle of a person dying on a cross.

Jesus not only paid for the guilt of our sins, He also endured the shame of your and my sins on the cross.

*<sup>35</sup> And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots. Matthew 27:35 (ESV)*

The dividing of Christ clothes emphasis **that Christ was striped naked**, but it also emphasises the greed over trivial gains in the hearts of the soldiers.

Jesus suffered **for your and my sin**, He endured the shame of the cross.

The suffering on the cross and the misery that Christ experienced testifies to the depraved condition of the human hearts and the rebellious hatred that Man has towards His creator God Jesus Christ.

## **Application**

1. Know that because of your sin, you are deserving of the shame, the guilt, the suffering, the torture that Jesus experienced for all eternity.
2. Reject Jesus and you reject Christ being your substitutionary sacrifice.

*<sup>8</sup> but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8 (ESV)*

*<sup>18</sup> knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. 1 Peter 1:18–19 (ESV)*

## 6. Supplication for deliverance 19-21

*<sup>19</sup> But you, O LORD, do not be far off! O you my help, come quickly to my aid! <sup>20</sup> Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog! <sup>21</sup> Save me from the mouth of the lion! You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen! Psalm 22:19–21 (ESV)*

This **silent prayer by Christ** begins with **request for Gods to be close to Him**.

The distance between Him and Yahweh, the only **God was unbearable**.

He was asking **God to come to His aid, to save Him from those** who would destroy him.

But did God answer this prayer?

***<sup>21</sup> Save me from the mouth of the lion! You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen***

The Hebrew term used for you have rescued me, means you have answered me in the original Hebrew.

What is the answer He received?

You answered me **from the horns of the wild oxen**.

You have answered me through the goring horns of wild oxen, through the nails that pierced his hands and feet.

*<sup>10</sup> Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. Isaiah 53:10 (ESV)*

Gods answer was **to crush Him, so that He would be the guilt offering** for your and my sin.

This was a demonstration of Gods will be being done and not my will being done.

### Application

1. Jesus death was necessary.
2. If there was any other way for salvation, then God would not have killed His son.
3. But in God's grand scheme of things, Jesus Christ death and resurrection are the only way to bring satisfaction to an infinitely Holy, infinitely good, infinitely righteous God.
4. This was and is to you and I the ultimate display of humility, the ultimate display of Love and Jesus died not for himself, but for your and my sin.
5. To you this morning, who has not trusted in Christ as your Saviour, may I make an appeal to you to realize that Jesus went through the agony of the cross for your and my sins.

Reject Jesus and your rejecting God's provision of salvation for your soul.

Reject Jesus and you will someday meet Jesus as Judge and executioner of Gods warth

So repent, turn to Him, turn to the one that suffered such anguish and place your hope, your fear and your dependence totally upon him for salvation.

Repent and believe in Christ death and resurrection for the forgiveness of sin.

And if you do that, if you come to God praying, God save me from the wrath to come, save me from my sin and condemnation. Jesus save me for I am a sinner.

I am in desperate need for salvation.

His answer to you may be this,

Because I did not save Jesus from the nails that pierced His hand s and Feet, which you deserved for your sins, I will save you.

Jesus invites you listener to come to Jesus.

*<sup>28</sup> Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Matthew 11:28–29 (ESV)*

And to the believers listening.

Jesus was forsaken, Jesus was scorned, Jesus suffered and died, for your sin.

Jesus was not delivered from the cross, so that you and I can be delivered from our sins.

Give thanks to Jesus this day, for what He has done.

We close our sermon today, as we commemorate Christ death on the cross for your and my sins.

On Sunday Morning, where we will continue vs 22-31, commemorating the resurrection of Christ.

## **Conclusion**

7 descriptions of Christ suffering and trust in God's deliverance that encourage proclamation and praise despite difficult circumstances.

1. Separation from God vs 1 He was forsaken because of your and My sin
2. Salvation through trust 3-5 He found comfort in God deliverances to those in the past who trusted Him.
3. Scorn from Man 6-8 He experience mocking , shame and ridicule by mankind.
4. Steadfast trust through life in God 9-10 He found comfort in God's life long faithfulness
5. Suffering and crucifixion 11-18 He suffered and died for your sin
6. Supplication for deliverance 19-21 Will you join in asking God to save you and rescue you by placing your faith in Christ death and resurrection.

Join in praising our savior.

I've included a link of a song you may want to listen too at the end of this sermon.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mDkuxElcpdl>

