

## Sure mercies of David | Psalm 22

---

**\*\*We must consider that Jesus recited this entire Psalm while on the cross.**

- 1 **My God, my God**, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning? Cited: Matthew 27:46  
**\*\*When quoting, Jesus switched from the Hebrew word “forsaken” to Aramic “entangled”. Consider Genesis 22, “they went both of them together.” “...so far from helping” Consider Joshua 1:5; those in Christ Heb. 13:5 “...so far from helping” Golgotha - outside the camp. “...strong crying”, Heb. 5:7 “...Lion” see Rev. 5:5.**
- 2 O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer and by night, but I find no rest.  
*The cry of abandonment... \*\*crucifixion took both day and night.*
- 3 **Yet you are holy**, enthroned on the praises of Israel.
- 4 In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them. Cited: Matt. 27:43
- 5 To you they cried and were rescued; in you they trusted and were not put to shame.  
*His God is holy and trustworthy....*
- 6 **But I am a worm and not a man**, scorned by mankind and despised by the people. Cited: Matt. 27:30  
**\*\* “ worm” coccus worm from which scarlet dye was extracted by crushing.**
- 7 All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads; Cited: Matt. 27:39 | Mark 15:29  
**\*\*by the elders, Romans, Jewish leaders, spectators**
- 8 “He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!” Cited: Luke 23:35 - Matthew 27:43 *He is a public spectacle....*
- 9 **Yet you are he** who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts.  
**\*\*OT has copious anticipations of the virgin birth.**
- 10 On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God.  
**\*\* From my mother’s womb - not from all eternity.**
- 11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.  
*Appealing to God’s responsibilities to intervene.... \*\* See John 16:32*
- 12 Many bulls encompass me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me;  
**\*\*Powerful men of stature. If gored by a bull the price was 30 pieces of silver. (Ex. 21:32)**
- 13 they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.  
*Comparing the nature of the torment... \*\*compare with brutal scourging.*
- 14 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;  
Soldier: John 19:34  
**\*\* like blood of the Passover Lamb. “Scattered” Matt. 26:31**
- 15 my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death  
*The impact of the alienation - deep within his inner being...Life itself was fading....*  
**\*\*”Potsherd. Isa. 45:9 Quoted/Jesus: John 19:28**
- 16 For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet. (Matt. 27:35)
- 17 I can count all my bones— they stare and gloat over me; See Matt. 27:35 Luke 23:35 John 19:33/37
- 18 they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots. See Matt. 27:35  
*Personal loss and anguish... \*\*Removal of garments of king/priest (Absalom, Ahithopel). Final curse of nakedness (Deut. 21:23) “Cast lots” To rend it would be to destroy the robe of the High Priest.*
- 19 **But you, O LORD**, do not be far off! O you my help, come quickly to my aid! Cited John 19:24; [Matt. 27:35; Luke 23:34] We must never stop praying, even in our deepest depression.
- 20 Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious (darling) life from the power of the dog!
- 21 Save me from the mouth of the lion! You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!  
*Final cry for deliverance ....*
- 22 I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:  
See Romans 3:23-26; Heb. 2:12 Congregation “Ecclesia” \*The tone of this Psalm changes to praise following final cry for deliverance...the seeming failure at the beginning is now swallowed up in victory.
- 23 You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

- 24 For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him. Heb. 5:7  
*Salvation as the response to cry for deliverance....*”For” Isa. 53:4,7; Phil. 2:9 Shining forth of glory.
- 25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him.  
*From you comes the "theme" (NIV) of my praise....* Psalm 50:14
- 26 The afflicted (meek) shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live forever! \*\*Implies eating of the peace offering. Deut. 12:12; Isa. 65:3; John 6:51;
- 27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you. \*A renewed and prosperous earth is now the domain of the faithful. Psa. 2:8; Psa. 96:7  
 \*\*The outcome of the shame and suffering described in this Psalm: a worldwide Kingdom of God. Remarkable!
- 28 For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations. Psa. 47:8; Zech. 14:9  
*The LORD is sovereign. Israel and all nations will praise Him....*
- 29 All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive. Psa. 72:9; Phil. 2:10
- 30 Posterity (seed) shall serve him; it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation; Psa.  
 \*\* Consider the theme beginning with the seed of the woman. Psa. 48:13; 71:18
- 31 they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that **he has done it.**  
 \*\*The “rebirth” to spiritual life of Christ’s spiritual seed will be the final and climactic declaration of God’s righteousness in Christ (Rom 3:25-26) When death is swallowed up on victory, it will be as though a new nation were born in on day from the womb of the earth. (1 Cor. 15:54; Psa 110:3, 78:6, 86:9, 102:18; Isa. 60:3; 66:8)

***The redemption story will resound to all nations throughout time. The Messianic miracle provides the path to salvation. The Son of David. The sure love and mercy for David to all the earth.... This psalm is a specific and remarkable prophecy of the sufferings of Jesus, but also, in many ways, the experience of every believer.***

**Notes:**

- *Expositor’s Bible Commentary on Psalm 22 | no forward reference to the cross to be found.*
- *\*\* Copied from “Psalms Studies” Volume one. George Booker*
- *\* random thoughts inserted by the compiler*
- *Many cross references from Psalm 22 come from an array of OT verses*
  - *“They gave me poison for food, and for my thirst they gave me sour wine to drink.” Psalms 69:21*
- *All Scripture has been written for our learning and comfort in our times of suffering and trial. That is why we need to concentrate on rehearsal of the verses and relying on them during our moments of suffering.*
- *We need to understand Psalm 22 so that we can memorize it and use it, appropriate it. It is the parallel of the suffering of the congregation that is followed by the glory.*