

Sunday Night Message

February 3, 2013

*Psalm 22 – The Psalm of the Cross*

Series – The Psalms

Text – Psalm 22

### **Introduction**

This Psalm is a psalm of lament, which may very well describe some historical details in the life of David, possibly when he was forced out of Jerusalem by his son Absalom; but far more importantly, this psalm is a vivid description of the passion of the Lord Jesus Christ on the Cross of Calvary.

The historical facts about the crucifixion of Christ are given in the gospels; but this Psalm opens up the heart of the Lord Jesus Christ, and reveals to all who read it the inner suffering of the Lord while He suffered and died for the sins of mankind.

The instrument of death became the altar through which the life giving blood of the Lord Jesus was shed upon.

This is the most quoted Psalm in the New Testament.

### **I The Humiliation of Christ – The Horror of the Crucifixion (vs. 1 - 21)**

see Hebrews 2:9 – 18; Isaiah 53; Philippians 2; John 19:16 - 37

Jesus was alone for the first time with the sins of the whole world.

v. 1

*"And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46; also Mark 15:34)*

“roaring” – moaning and groaning

v. 2 – the daytime describes the first three hours on the cross; the night seasons describe the last three hours on the cross.

*"Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour." (Matthew 27:45)*

vs. 6 – 8

*"And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads, And saying, Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross. Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said, He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him. He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God. The thieves also, which were crucified with him, cast the same in his teeth." (Matthew 27:39-44)*

v. 12 - 13

*"And sitting down they watched him there;" (Matthew 27:36)*

v. 14 - We read in John that none of his bones were broken, but they were yanked out of joint; and when they pierced him, blood and water came out.

The doctors tell us that when a person's heart ruptures, that there is a sack of water around it, that often ruptures as well.

Jesus literally died of a broken heart.

v. 15

*"After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst. Now there was set a vessel full of vinegar: and they filled a sponge with vinegar, and put it upon hyssop, and put it to his mouth." (John 19:28-29)*

v. 16 – pierced – his hands, feet, and his side

v. 17 – on the cross because of the way he was hanging, his bones would be sticking out.

v.18

*"And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots." (Matthew 27:35)*

## **II The Exaltation of Christ - The Message of the Resurrection (vs. 22 - 31)**

In verse 22, it is like a switch has been turned on. This psalm of lament, becomes a psalm of praise; this psalm of agony becomes a psalm of ecstasy; this psalm of defeat becomes a psalm of victory.