

**PSALMS – God’s Songs for Us
Lent and Holy Week 2022**

Zion Lutheran Church, Ridgeville Corners, Ohio
Good Friday, April 15, 2022

Psalm 22 was written by King David and in part speaks of his suffering and faith. The psalm also illuminates the sufferings and faith of the people of Israel, and relates to people of the Church – including us – as well.

However, it is quite clear that Psalm 22 speaks most directly of God’s Son, Jesus Christ, who though in perfect harmony with the Father – yet endured rejection, ridicule, torture and death. These happened not because Jesus was unfaithful, but because humanity is unfaithful to God. Jesus endured rejection so that He would achieve salvation for all sinners. Jesus desires this message of salvation to be proclaimed to all the people.

Jesus and the New Testament writers quoted and alluded to Psalm 22 frequently. From Dr. Timothy Saleska’s Psalm 1-50 Commentary:

Psalm 22:1 is quoted in Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34;

Psalm 22:7 is alluded to in Mt 27:29, 39; Mark 15:29;

Psalm 22:8 is cited in Matthew 27:43;

Psalm 22:16 is alluded to in John 20:24–27; Revelation 1:7;

Psalm 22:18 is quoted in John 19:24 and alluded to in Matthew 27:35; Mark 15:24; Luke 23:34.

Moreover, Psalm 22:13 is alluded to in 1 Peter 5:8. Also, compare Psalm 22:2 to Luke 18:7; Psalm 22:5 to Romans 5:5; and Psalm 22:6 to Mark 9:12.

The words of Psalm 22:22 are ascribed to Jesus by the author of Hebrews (Hebrews 2:12); see also John 20:17. Also, compare Psalm 22:21 to 2 Timothy 4:17; Ps 22:23 to Revelation 19:5; and Psalm 22:28 to Revelation 11:15.

See also Hebrews 5:7–10, where the author sums up the high priesthood of Jesus using Psalm 22 (especially Psalm 22:24). Moreover, compare Psalm 22:28 to Matthew 6:10 in the prayer our Lord taught his disciples ever to pray.

The quoted section from Dr. Saleka is from footnotes 72, 73 and 74 of his commentary on Psalm 22. The footnotes are expanded to full sentences and words. Timothy E. Saleska, *Psalms 1–50*, ed. Christopher W. Mitchell, Concordia Commentary (Saint Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing House, 2020).

Sermon Notes: "He was forsaken, so that we would be embraced" Psalm 22

The following notes are given for our meditation on some of the details that Psalm 22 and the New Testament teach us about Jesus. Jesus is the perfect and great Servant of the Father, sent to save the world from sin, devil and death.

vs 1-2 – The LORD's Servant seems abandoned by God and He cries out continuously.

vs 3-5 – But the Servant knows that God has not abandoned His people in the past; the believers of old trusted in the LORD and He rescued them.

vs 6-11 – Yet the condition of the Servant is horrendous. He is not even considered a human being by His despisers, mockers and torturers. They even make fun of His faith and relationship with the LORD (v 8). (See Isaiah 53:

41 So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, 42 "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. 43 He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" 44 And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way. Matthew 27:41-44

But the Servant knows He belongs to God the Father. Even from His conception and birth the Father has been with Him. Therefore, "Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help."

vs 12-18 – The Servant's enemies are all about Him. They are like wild bulls and lions ready to tear Him to bits. The evildoers are like a pack of dogs attacking, and they pierce His hands and feet (Jesus nailed to the cross). His body is stretched out so that the outline of His bones can be seen, even counted. The clothes of the Servant are taken away, He is stripped before His enemies.

vs 19-21 – The servant cries out to the LORD God to save from these enemies who are like the wild dogs, lions and bulls.

vs 22-26 – Despite the suffering from enemies, the Servant will bear witness to the LORD's goodness.

In the Temple, in worship, the Servant will praise and glorify the LORD. The people of Israel will be taught to be in awe of the LORD. No matter what the condition of people, the LORD does not abandon. The people should know that:

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.

Thus, the people should thus praise and fear the LORD. They will be fed and given life from Him.

vs 27-31 – The Servant desires all the people on earth, everywhere, to remember and turn (repent) to the LORD.

and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.

28 For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

The Servant desires all families to know the LORD and believe in Him. The LORD desire to embrace the families and nations and that they would pray "Thy kingdom come."

Both rich and poor, even the dying ones, should worship the LORD.

All future generations will be told of the LORD's salvation for them, that "He has done it." Tell them: *It is finished. It is accomplished.*

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Luke 24:44-49 -- Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."