

Book of Revelation – Case Study I - “Psalm 22” {Part A}

The Psalm of the Cross

Series REV-24

Psalm 22

“Psalm of the Cross”

This Psalm, more than any other psalm, clearly indicates *the sufferings of Christ* the last hours of His life. It tells much--*What it Cost Jesus Christ to Save Us*. It reveals the state of mind the Son of God was in, during those long, agonizing tortuous hours. He experienced rejection by his own people, being forsaken by all his disciples and worst of all the experience of apparent abandonment by His heavenly Father. Yet, the Suffering Messiah prevailed **by faith** until the end. Praise God, What a Saviour! Thank you, Jesus!

We need to study it, not just read it since it involves the last few, but terribly painful hours of Jesus life and the implications for all intelligent created life. The **suffering, agony and mental anguish** of the Son of God, bearing the sins of the world will impact the human mind so strongly for those who gaze upon it as to bring contrition of heart and soul to each. Note this statement from DA p. 104, “Before they would seek healing from Jesus, they must be awakened to their danger from the wounds of sin.” [This is what focusing on the cross of Christ accomplishes.] God “lays heavy burdens upon the conscience of the wrongdoer, and pierces the soul with arrows of conviction...Then the hand that has humbled in the dust, lifts up the penitent. The voice that has rebuked sin, and put to shame pride and ambition, [the Spirit’s voice speaking at Calvary], inquires with tenderest sympathy, ‘What wilt thou that I shall do unto thee?’” [How thankful we should be for the Spirit of Prophecy.]

Many passages in this psalm were fulfilled in the Gospel account of Jesus’ suffering on the cross. In all four Gospels, we see passages dealing with the cross, being quoted from Psalm 22.

THE ATONEMENT

The whole purpose of Christ’s life is summed up in this Psalm. It was a life of self-sacrifice. This is the reason why we should study it prayerfully and often. Unlike any other chapter in the Bible does it speak to us both corporately and individually. It is divided up into two segments.

Vss. 1-20: The Atonement Christ was achieving for fallen man was accomplished **by faith** through the process of **humiliation and suffering**.

vs. 21- 31: Last third of the chapter, the Man of Calvary becomes, “[the Lion of Judah](#)” [[click to revisit](#)], Who prevails turning these verses into an anthem of **praise** and **victory**.

We will study the first segment initially. What a study it will be. Are you ready? Here we go . . .

One last thing before we look at this Psalm. Recall how many times, Jesus tried to get His disciples to realize He was to go up to Jerusalem, be betrayed, suffer many things, be scourged, condemned to death, crucified and rise the third day.” {Matt. 16:21; 20:18, 19; Mark 15:16-20.} Notice also what Peter has revealed to us on this theme: https://42b3252a-7551-4b5d-bccb-4bdc0e9e9150.filesusr.com/ugd/b9c0b2_027926ec41924481bc5c3de6bf2e3f74.pdf

The following will provide points which will show the ‘*humanity of Jesus*’ *in His suffering*-requiring interpretation, application and analysis in our study of this tremendous Psalm. {Some of these questions are deep and will require reflection and prayer.}

- Three pleas for the Father to be not “far from helping” the Suffering Victim.
- In His humiliated and dying state, Jesus likened Himself to that condition He had later declared us in--that of ‘a worm’.
- A truth comes out in verses 9 and 10 that reveals the way Christ got the victory all through His life.
- Expresses a reality of ‘hope’ and when it came to the human family.
- This Psalm conveys the principle of Eschaton, a subject for deep serious contemplation and prayerful study.
- States the last triad “plea” of Christ in verses 19 and 20 for our evaluation.
- Reveals a profound reality in vs. 15 and in vs. 19 regarding the word “strength.”

1. The three pleas of the Suffering Victim for His Father to not be “far from helping” Him are identified in which verses? _____.

Are these three requests just repeated to fill space, or like the three times Jesus plead in Gethsemane, “Father, if possible, remove this cup...”, they provide a deeper understanding. If so, what might that understanding be to you? _____

2. In His humiliated, dying state, Jesus likens Himself to that of ‘a worm’. {The implications of this alone, are deep.} In Isaiah 41:10, 13 & 14, the promise is given us to “fear not”; however, in verse 14, the Lord calls Jacob (his people) this same word—“a worm.” Though there are probably a number of insights we can draw from this, provide at least two comparing our “humanness” and the “humanity of Jesus.” _____

3. Truths are brought to light in verses 9 and 10 that gives insight into
A) how Christ got the victory all through His life. _____

B) A reality of 'Hope' is expressed here. When do you think this is referring to. i.e. coming to humanity? {think carefully} _____
_____.
4. In this Psalm we see the principle of Eschaton in play (i.e God's word speaks of the end of or conclusion of a matter, before coming back to show what lead up to it.) This is probably the most challenging of these questions. A close study of Psalm 22 will indicate, there is not apparent order. If Ps.22:1 occurs, "about the ninth hour," (Matt 27:45-- {about 3 pm, right before Jesus expires}), then why is it not toward the end of the drama instead of at the beginning of the chapter? _____

_____.
5. In verses 19 & 20, we have Christ's last and third plea, but it is in a triad. List this last triad pleas and evaluate if they build on each other.
1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
- _____
_____.
6. What does this word "strength" or how it is used in verse 15 and verse 19, mean to you? There is a relationship between the two. _____
_____.

Remember this statement as we come to the end of this segment.

The sacrifice of Christ as an atonement for sin is the great truth around which all other truths cluster. In order to be rightly understood and appreciate, every truth in the word of God, from Genesis to revelation, must be studied in the light that streams from the cross of Calvary. I present before you the great, grand monument of mercy and regeneration, salvation and redemption,--the Son of God uplifted on the cross.

{GW 315.2}