

“Christ’s View from the Cross” Psalm 22:9-31

- ⁹ But You *are* He who took Me out of the womb; You made Me trust *while* on My mother’s breasts. ¹⁰ I was cast upon You from birth. From My mother’s womb You *have been* My God. ¹¹ Be not far from Me, For trouble *is* near; For *there is* none to help. ¹² Many bulls have surrounded Me; Strong *bulls* of Bashan have encircled Me. ¹³ They gape at Me *with* their mouths, *Like* a raging and roaring lion. ¹⁴ I am poured out like water, And all My bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax; It has melted within Me. ¹⁵ My strength is dried up like a potsherd, And My tongue clings to My jaws; You have brought Me to the dust of death.
- ¹⁶ For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet; ¹⁷ I can count all My bones. They look *and* stare at Me. ¹⁸ They divide My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots. ¹⁹ But You, O LORD, do not be far from Me; O My Strength, hasten to help Me! ²⁰ Deliver Me from the sword, My precious *life* from the power of the dog. ²¹ Save Me from the lion’s mouth And from the horns of the wild oxen! You have answered Me. ²² I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will praise You. ²³ You who fear the LORD, praise Him! All you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him, And fear Him, all you offspring of Israel!
- ²⁴ For He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; Nor has He hidden His face from Him; But when He cried to Him, He heard.
- ²⁵ My praise *shall be* of You in the great assembly; I will pay My vows before those who fear Him. ²⁶ The poor shall eat and be satisfied; Those who seek Him will praise the LORD. Let your heart live forever!
- ²⁷ All the ends of the world Shall remember and turn to the LORD, And all the families of the nations Shall worship before You. ²⁸ For the kingdom *is* the LORD’s, And He rules over the nations. ²⁹ All the prosperous of the earth Shall eat and worship; All those who go down to the dust Shall bow before Him, Even he who cannot keep himself alive. ³⁰ A posterity shall serve Him. It will be recounted of the Lord to the *next* generation,
- ³¹ They will come and declare His righteousness to a people who will be born, That He has done *this*.

In our first study of Psalm 22, we considered the “WHY” or the PURPOSE of the Cross, why did God the Father forsake Christ? For our salvation!

In our second study of Psalm 22 we considered Christ's praising God from the cross, even a greater PURPOSE of the CROSS, to glorify God!

In this third study we will consider Christ's view from the cross. One of the things that makes Psalm 22 one of the greatest passages in all of Scripture is that it gives us a glimpse of the mind of Christ ...

A mind which Paul in Philippians 2 calls us to imitate –

It also allows us to see things as Christ saw them from the cross -

I. It was first a view up into Heaven –

1. My previous sermons, even Psalm 22:1 - My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Psalm 22:1 A have shown this Psalm to be a prayer to God from the cross! Christ even praised God, in His heart, from the cross

3 But You are holy, Enthroned in the praises of Israel. Psalm 22:3

2. In this portion of the Psalm, we find Christ speaking as God incarnate, in verses 9-10 remembering the womb –

9 But You are He who took Me out of the womb; You made Me trust while on My mother's breasts. 10 I was cast upon You from birth. From My mother's womb You have been My God. Psalm 22:9-10

A. His memory from the womb I believe unique to the Mind of Christ, our forgetfulness is a consequence of sin!

B. As the Son of God, He always had faith, others had EARLY faith / salvation as well –

2 Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have ordained strength, Because of Your enemies, That You may silence the enemy and the avenger. Psalm 8:2

C. His human nature was capable of growth –

40 And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him. Luke 2:40

D. God's care of, His protection of, His LOVE for: the Man, Christ Jesus is in view in these verses!

¹⁰ I was cast upon You from birth. *Means, like a new born baby He was placed in His Heavenly Father's mighty arms! God was His God from the beginning!*

3. This view up to Heaven begins and continues with prayer –

¹¹ Be not far from Me, For trouble is near; For *there is none to help.*
Psalm 22:11

II. It was also a view down at a viscous ungodly world –

1. His own people the Jews were against Him

¹² Many bulls have surrounded Me; Strong *bulls* of Bashan have encircled Me. ¹³ They gape at Me *with* their mouths, *Like* a raging and roaring lion. Psalm 22:12-13

“Bashan” was a fertile country (Numbers 32:4), and the cattle there fed were fat and “strong.” Deuteronomy 32:14. Like them, the Jews in that good land “waxed fat and kicked,” grew proud and rebelled; forsook God “that made them, and lightly esteemed the rock of their salvation.”—*George Horne.*

2. The Roman Empire, the Gentiles were against Him

¹⁶ For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet; ¹⁷ I can count all My bones. They look *and* stare at Me. ¹⁸ They divide My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots. Psalm 22:16-18

Gentiles were called “dogs” by the Jews, even Jesus called the Gentiles “dogs” –

²² And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed.” ²³ But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, “Send her away, for she cries out after us.” ²⁴ But He answered and said, “I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵ Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, “Lord, help me!” ²⁶ But He answered and said, “It is not good to take the children’s bread and throw *it* to the little

dogs.” ²⁷ And she said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered and said to her, “O woman, great *is* your faith! Let it be to you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed from that very hour. Matthew 15:2-28

Scripture fulfilled here makes it clear this Psalm is about Christ – one example Psalm 22:18

³⁵ Then they crucified Him, and divided His garments, casting lots, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet:

*“They divided My garments among them,
And for My clothing they cast lots.” Matthew 27:35*

²⁴ And when they crucified Him, they divided His garments, casting lots for them to determine what every man should take. Mark 15:24

³⁴ Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.” And they divided His garments and cast lots. Luke 23:34

²³ Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments and made four parts, to each soldier a part, and also the tunic. Now the tunic was without seam, woven from the top in one piece. ²⁴ They said therefore among themselves, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be,” that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says:

*“They divided My garments among them,
And for My clothing they cast lots.”*

Therefore the soldiers did these things. John 19:23-24

3. *Both Jews and Gentiles are compared to beasts, bulls and dogs*

4. *The actions of the ungodly, lead to Christ’s response of more prayer –*
¹⁹ But You, O LORD, do not be far from Me; O My Strength, hasten to help Me! ²⁰ Deliver Me from the sword, My precious *life* from the power of the dog. ²¹ Save Me from the lion’s mouth and from the horns of the wild oxen! You have answered Me. Psalm 22:19-21

Note Christ counts this an answered prayer!

III. It was a look inward at His physical state –

**¹⁴I am poured out like water, and all My bones are out of joint;
My heart is like wax; It has melted within Me. ¹⁵My strength is
dried up like a potsherd, And My tongue clings to My jaws;
You have brought Me to the dust of death. Psalm 22:14-15**

Verse 14.—“I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels.”

He was faint. *Such* a feeling of languor and faintness supervened that language fails to express it, and the emblem of “water poured out” is employed to represent it. As the water falls from the vessel to the earth, see how its particles separate farther and farther from each other. Its velocity increases as it falls. It has no power to stay itself midway, much less to return to its place. It is the very picture of utter weakness. So did our Lord feel himself to be when hanging on the cross. He was faint with weakness. The sensations experienced when about to faint away are very overpowering. We appear to our own consciousness to be nothing but weakness, as water poured out. All our bones feel relaxed and out of joint; we seem as though we had none. The strength of bone is gone, the knitting of the joints is loosened, and the muscular vigour fled. A sickly giddiness overcomes us. We have no power to bear up. All heart is lost. Our strength disappears like that of wax, of melting wax, which drops upon surrounding objects, and is lost. Daniel thus describes his sensations on beholding the great vision, **“There remained no strength in me: for my vigour was turned into corruption, and I retained no strength.” Daniel 10:8.**

In regard, however, to the faintness which our Lord experienced, we ought to notice this additional and remarkable circumstance, that he did not altogether faint away. The relief of insensibility he refused to take. When consciousness ceases, all perception of pain is necessarily and instantly terminated. But our Lord retained his full consciousness throughout this awful scene; and patiently endured for a considerable period, those, to us, insupportable sensations which precede the actual swoon.

—*John Stevenson.*

IV. It is a look forward beyond the cross to Christ's resurrection, the preaching of the Gospel, and salvation of God's people all over the world –

1. Christ's resurrection is assumed in Christ's prophecy of His proclamation of God's Name -

²² I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will praise You.

2. His mercy toward and salvation of the God-fearing people of Israel is prophesied -

²³ You who fear the LORD, praise Him! All you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him, And fear Him, all you offspring of Israel! Psalm 22:23

These are the humble, the afflicted, the poor of the earth, these will praise the LORD -

²⁴ For He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; Nor has He hidden His face from Him; But when He cried to Him, He heard. ²⁵ My praise shall be of You in the great assembly; I will pay My vows before those who fear Him. ²⁶ The poor shall eat and be satisfied; Those who seek Him will praise the LORD. Let your heart live forever! Psalm 22:24-26

3. His mercy toward and the salvation of the Nations, Gentiles -

²⁷ All the ends of the world Shall remember and turn to the LORD, And all the families of the nations Shall worship before You. ²⁸ For the kingdom is the LORD's, And He rules over the nations. Psalm 22:27-28

4. The prosperous -

²⁹ All the prosperous of the earth Shall eat and worship; Psalm 22:29

A Probably Psalm 1 type

**¹ Blessed is the man
Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly,
Nor stands in the path of sinners,
Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;**

- ² But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD,
And in His law he meditates day and night.
- ³ He shall be like a tree
Planted by the rivers of water,
That brings forth its fruit in its season,
Whose leaf also shall not wither;
And whatever he does shall prosper.
- ⁴ The ungodly *are* not so,
But *are* like the chaff which the wind drives away.
- ⁵ Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment,
Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
- ⁶ For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
But the way of the ungodly shall perish.

5. *The dying* -

All those who go down to the dust Shall bow before Him, Even he who cannot keep himself alive. Psalm 2:29 B

6. *The future* -

³⁰ **A posterity shall serve Him. It will be recounted of the Lord to the next generation, ³¹ They will come and declare His righteousness to a people who will be born, That He has done *this*. Psalm 22:30-31**

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