Psalm 22

EASTER SUNDAY > Celebrate Glory, Triumph, Exaltation of Lord Jesus Christ Evangelist > Greatest Revelation Jesus' Glory > APOSTLE JOHN > 7 "I AM's"

"I am the way and the truth and the life." 14.6

"I am the bread of life." 6.35

"I am the true vine." 15.1

"I am the light of the world." 8.12

"I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. 10.9
"I am the good shepherd...(who) lays down his life for the sheep. 10.11
"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live" 11.25,26

Psalm 22 > 8th "I AM" of Jesus > No Glory, No Triumph > Only Terror & Gore 22.6 "*I am a worm and not a man*, scorned by men and despised by the people."

Psalm written 1000 years BEFORE Jesus was Born > by David, King of Israel One of Most Complete Descriptions of Work of Jesus in all Scripture Awesome Power & Plan of God > Suffering Servant > Pain to Prayer to Praise

2 Main Points: 1. Weeping through the Night

a. Concerned Cry > Seriousness of Crying measured by Who is Crying

From Some you EXPECT > Big, Phony, Puppy Dog Tears > NOT DAVID! Psalm of King David > Mighty Warrior in Israel > NOT A CRY BABY

Early morning in 1971 > My Bed Shaking > thought Parents waking Me 3rd Floor Apt / Rocking Back & Forth / Center of Strong Earthquake / Los Angeles GREATEST FEAR > Not Shaking > Mom screaming down the Corridor ONLY TIME IN MY LIFE heard Mom Scream > My Rock was Shaken

David the WARRIOR > has become David the WORM

MAN of GREAT COURAGE > Real Terror when the FEARLESS are AFRAID!

vs. 6,7 > SCORNED > DESPISED > MOCKED > INSULTED

v. 14 "My heart has turned to wax; it has melted away within me."

David > Man after God's own Heart > His Heart has TURNED TO WAX

b. Continuous Cry

v. 2 "I cry out by day, but you do not answer, by night, and am not silent" God SEEMS DEAF to his prayers > No Comfort to his Troubled Mind

INTENSE SUFFERING > v. 2 "the words of my groaning... by day...by night" As Crying CONTINUES > SUFFERING INTENSIFIES > Gets Worse!

John Calvin "Faith does not gain the victory at the first encounter, but after receiving many blows, and after being exercised with many tossings, she at length comes forth victorious."

EVIL WORDS of vs. 6-8 grow into EVIL ACTS in vs. 12-18

ANIMAL BEHAVIOR > Deny Image of God > Creator, Lifegiver Enemies: Blood-Thirsty and Cruel > More WILD BEAST than MAN

- v. 12 "Many bulls surround me"
- v. 13 "Roaring lions tearing their prey open their mouths wide against me."
- v. 16 "Dogs have surrounded me"
- v. 20 "the power of the dogs"
- v. 21 "the mouth of the lions... the horns of the wild oxen"

ALL THESE BEASTS UNITE TO STOP A WORM

Jews did not Practice Crucifixion > Unknown at Time of David, 1000 B.C. Centuries Later Romans borrowed from Phoenicians > Crucified Thousands

Jews hung dead bodies from Trees > Sign of Ultimate Shame, Abandonment

Present Day Fallujah > Burn people Alive > Hang Chared Bodies on Bridges

NO SHORTAGE of SADISTIC CRUELTY > Evil Heart of Man Invents

Kazakh Girl from city in North > Cried with me this Week > Came to See older Sister in Almaty > Kicked out of her Apt. > because not RENOUNCED FAITH 7 years following Jesus > 7 years of family rejection > "crying for seven years!"

c. Confident Cry > Cry of DISORIENTATION NOT Cry of DOUBT

Confession OF FAITH > COMES BEFORE CRIES OF FEAR v. 1 "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?... O my God"

UNBELIEVER > Does NOT KNOW GOD > Cannot TRUST GOD > HOPELESS This is DESPERATE Cry of ONE who KNOWS THERE IS A GOD

NOT "Hello, Hello is Anyone Home in Heaven?... Is there a Heaven?... A God??"

PILOT sailed SHIPS into HOME PORT > Hundreds of Time > CONFIDENT "knows port is there, on right course BUT never seen such STORM" Sees Nothing Raging Waves / Torrential Wind > BLOWN AWAY CONFIDENCE

DISTRESS INTENSIFIES > DETERMINATION INCREASES

PATTERN of Psalm 22 > From Cries to Confession
1-2 Cry / 3-5 Confession / 6-8 Cry / 9-11 Confess / 12-18 Cry / 19-31 Confession
More Intense the Cries > More Intimate the Confession

From AGONY of DESPAIR > ASSURANCE of DELIVERANCE v. 24 "For he has not despised or disdained the suffering of the afflicted one; he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help."

May seem as if God has FORSAKEN him / But God has NOT FAILED HIM

v. 3 "You are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the praise of Israel." This David > Sang and Danced > Led Festal Throng into the House of the Lord

CONFIDENCE LIKE HABAKUK in the Face of Charging Babylonian Army "the LORD is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him." Hab 2.20

LOOKS BACK TWICE >>

vs. 4,5 BACK TO FAITH OF OUR FATHERS > Patriarchs of Israel In you our fathers put their trust; they trusted and you delivered them. They cried to you and were saved; in you they trusted and were not disappointed.

Holy One > Always Faithful to those in the Past who Trusted (3 X's) Faithful God > I TRUST YOU NOW > DELIVER ME!

vs. 9-11 LOOKS BACK TO THE FAITH OF OUR MOTHERS

"You brought me out of the womb; you made me trust in you even at my mother's breast. From birth I was cast upon you; from my mother's womb you have been my God. Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help."

BABY Granddaughter > Reminds Me > Our Utter Helplessness & Dependency Without Loving Care of Mom and Dad > Absolutely Lost and Hopeless

DAVID > I cast myself completely upon YOU > My only Help > My only Hope From my mother's womb you have been my God > I am the Promised One

CONFIDENCE > Sees beyond Grave to Glory > asks not Vengeance but Victory

v. 19 "O LORD, be not far off; O my Strength, come quickly to help me. Deliver my life"

d. Christ's Cry vs. 1, perhaps entire Psalm, quoted by Jesus on Cross

AMAZING STORY at Face Value > 3000 yrs ago > Incredible Endurance, Hope Psalm of David > Cannot fix to any event in his life > he Never suffered like This

Ps 22 NOT Description of an ILLNESS > but Execution > esp. Crucifixion Crucifixion > Not Practiced in time of David > or Many Centuries afterward

Psalm > PROPHETIC and ENTIRELY MESSIANIC

APOSTLE PETER > on Day of Pentecost:

Acts 2.29-31

"Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David... was a prophet and...Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ"

Jesus knew Old Testament > Wrote It > MISSION Defined by It: : `Here I am--it is written about me in the scroll-- I have come to do your will, O God.'" Heb 10.7

Psalm written 1000 years before > Reads like Newspaper Account of the Cross

v. 6 "I am a worm and not a man, scorned by men and despised by the people"

Not considered a Man by his People > called 'Drunkard' and 'Friend of Sinners'

Officials in Charge of Justice > HIRED FALSE WITNESSES against Him

RIDICULED AND MOCKED AS HE HUNG ON THE CROSS

v. 8 "He trusts in the LORD; let the LORD rescue him." > Jews VERY WORDS

SENSE OF ABANDONMENT

v. 11 "Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help"

BIBLE not as GRAPHIC as Film "The Passion of the Christ"

Medium: Film more vivid than Printed Page

Crucifixion Familiar to Audience: Roman Empire was ALL TOO COMMON

Perspective: NT is Post Resurrection Document "lamb that was slain"

Unseen Penalty: Most INTENSE Suffering was bearing SINS OF WORLD

REMEMBER > He went to CROSS > He died EXCRUCIATING DEATH

- v. 14 "I am poured out like water" > Spear thrust into Side > Water Flowed STRUCK ROCK > WATER FLOWED > ROCK WAS CHRIST
- v. 14 "all my bones are out of joint" > Painful Distortion WRITHING on a Cross
- v. 14 "My heart has turned to wax; it has melted away within me" SPECULATION > Medical Cause of Jesus Death BURST AORTA
- v. 15 "my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth" CRIED ALOUD "I thirst"
- v. 16 "they have pierced my hands and my feet"> BY ROMAN SPIKES
- v. 17 "I can count all my bones" > LEGS NOT BROKEN BY SOLDIERS
- v. 17 "people stare and gloat over me" PEOPLE GAPED AT HIS NAKEDNESS
- v. 18 Roman Soldiers: divide my garments among them & cast lots for my clothing

700 years before the Cross Isaiah wrote:

"He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed." 53.3-5

PAUL: Shocking Exchange > Our Filthy Rags for His Robe of Righteousness "God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

2 Corinthians 5.21

Was Jesus really Forsaken? Yes and No
Ultimately not > God cannot break His Covenant with His Covenant Son
NOT FORSAKEN > Father raised Him from the dead

Deep mystery > Holy God cannot look on sin > Jesus bore OUR SINS ESSENCE OF SIN > Separation from God Jesus > as He BORE our SINS > SENSED LOSS of Father's PRESENCE

No Wonder He Cried: "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" Martin Luther once sat for hours in deep contemplation on this verse Finally he rose: "God forsaken by God! Who can understand that?"

As Jesus cried out to His Father > Darkness covered the whole face of the earth God the Father > Enshrouded crucifixion in darkness > Hiding His Son's Shame

Jesus also Cried LAST WORDS of Psalm v 31 "for he has done it": It is Finished!

LAST WORDS of JESUS > It is Finished! > NT Greek word translated: Tetelestai!

SERVANT Finish a Task > "tetelistai" > the job is done

PRIEST examined lamb brought for sacrifice, IF No Fault "tetelistai" > Complete!

ARTIST after painting a picture >look at his work and say, "tetelistai"> Done!

MERCHANT receives payment for goods, stamps bill "tetelistai" > Paid in Full!

JESUS died on the cross > Sin's Penalty paid in full > Salvation is Accomplished It is Finished: Nothing can be added to the finished work of Christ. No GOOD WORKS > NO RELIGION > NOT EVEN PURGATORY

"I will exalt you, O LORD, for you lifted me out of the depths and did not let my enemies gloat over me...For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may last for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.

Psalm 30.1,5

1. Weeping through the Night 2. Rejoicing Comes in the Morning

v. 22 STORM PASSED > WAVES STILL > SUN EMERGES

"Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise (three women) were on their way to (Jesus') tomb and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?" But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe...and they were alarmed. Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen!

Mark 16.2-6

Risen One: v. 25 "From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly"

"Great Assembly" > Ritual from Law of Moses > Sacrifice of Thanksgiving AFTER PASSING THRU GREAT DANGER > Receiving Great Blessing

PEACE Offering or FELLOWSHIP Offering > Invite Family & Friends Share EAT before the Lord > SACRIFICE of Thanksgiving > Great SHASHLIK!

LORD JESUS > Passed thru Agony of Suffering and Death > Gives Thanks Gathers Great Assembly > THANKFUL CELEBRATION > We're Invited He's Cooking: v. 25 "HE WILL FULFILL THE VOWS" Picks up the Check

HE SAYS: "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

John 16.33

HE WILL LEAD THE SINGING > Jesus, ELDER BROTHER is Choir Master v. 22 I will declare your name to my brothers; in the congregation I will praise you.

SANG Before Cross: "When they had sung a hymn, they went out to Mt of Olives" Matthew 26.30

SONG NOW CONTINUES: Apostle John > " heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!"

Revelation 5.12,13

v. 3 HOLY GOD ENTHRONED AMONG PRAISES OF HIS PEOPLE So also, God the Son, INHABITS THE PRAISES OF HIS PEOPLE

- v. 23 "You who fear the LORD, praise him!... honor him! Revere him"
- v. 27 "remember and turn to the LORD...bow down before him"
- v. 29 "feast and worship... kneel before him"
- v. 30 "serve him"
- v. 31 "proclaim his righteousness"

HE MAKES THE GUEST LIST

FIRST > His Own Kinsmen of Israel > Very Ones who Crucified Him

v. 23. All you descendants of Jacob, honor him!...all you descendants of Israel! NO VENGEANCE > Only Endless Love & Welcome > from their Covenant God

"the gospel...is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile"

Romans 1.16

Apostle Peter Stood in Jerusalem WELCOMING ones who Crucified Messiah: "The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off--for all whom the Lord our God will call."

Acts 2.39

INVITATION GIVEN TO THOSE WHO CAN NEVER AFFORD IT v. 26 The poor will eat and be satisfied; they who seek the LORD will praise him-may your hearts live forever!

Not Mere Bread > Eat and be Satisfied > HEARTS WILL LIVE FOREVER

Jesus: "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty." John 6.35

1st place to Poor > 2nd place to Rich and Prosperous > not excluded from Grace

v. 29 "All the rich of the earth will feast and worship"

GUEST LIST EXTENDS WAY BEYOND borders of King David's Realm >

NATIONS will Come > Not in Slavish Submission > but JOYFUL WORSHIP

LIKE LIGHTNING FLASH FROM EAST TO WEST > Kingdom of X Advances

- v. 22 "my brothers; in the congregation"
- v. 23 "descendants of Jacob... descendants of Israel!"
- v. 25 "the great assembly"
- v. 26 "The poor"
- v. 27 "All the ends of the earth ... all the families of the nations"
- v. 28 "the nations"
- v. 29 "All the rich of the earth...all who go down to the dust... those who cannot keep themselves alive"
- v. 30 "Posterity...future generations"
- v. 31 "a people yet unborn"

"the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea"

Isaiah 11.9

AMAZING PSALM > from One God Forsaken Man, Agonizing, Alone To "a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb" Revelation 7.9

"It was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, *he will see his offspring* and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand." Isaiah 53.10

WILD OLIVE BRANCHES > Grafted into the Gospel Tree COVENANT NATION > Becomes the Church of All Nations

Those who Come > Enter the Joy > LEARN THE SONG > share with others:

v. 30,31 Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord. They will proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn

"this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations"

Matthew 24.14

Dare we Neglect His Praise > Declare His Glory to Neighbors & Nations Will this Generation Hear? > Will they be Equipped to Reach the Next?

1000 years ago > Church in Central Asia > Where did it Go? 1000 yrs future > If Lord Tarries > Will there be Church in Central Asia? UNBELIEVER > What are you waiting for? > Will you join this Great Assembly?

JOHN CALVIN: "He invites even the dead to come to the feast, the most despised, those who seem already to be reduced to dust, whose restoration from death to life is despaired of, and even those who, in the estimation of the world, are almost like putrefying carcases, may be encouraged and emboldened to present themselves at the holy table of the Lord."

Psalm > What God's WRATH against SIN does to His OWN SON SHUDDER to THINK what will HAPPEN to You > His ENEMY

If this happens to God's BELOVED SON > Dare you CONTINUE as His Enemy?

Only Tragic but Wonderful Story > until you receive Jesus Christ as Savior & Lord

BELIEVER > IN YOUR DARKEST HOUR > This Risen Jesus > Stands with you Declaring Faith and Confidence > Mighty God > Greater than Death Itself

Director of Largest Psychiatric Hospital in England > "Half of my patients could be released tomorrow if they could be assured of forgiveness"

We have that Assurance > It is Finished! > Christ has Risen > Salvation is Ours

Servant Stephen > Featured at Jerusalem Rock Concert > Saw Jesus Standing Not impassively sitting on a chair > Standing, arms of grace extended

He is Alive > Upholding the Universe by the Word of His Power > Coming Again!

ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER DAILY > Especially on this Resurrection Day!

weeping may last for a night, but rejoicing comes on THIS morning!