

Psalm 22:1-31 –A Bad Friday for Jesus, A Good Friday for You

Beloved in the Lord: Psalm 22 is often called the *Gospel According to David*. It is called the *Gospel According to David* because it shows the Messiah's good work for the church. In it you see the Messiah suffering for his church, the glory that would come to the Messiah for his work, and blessings that would come to the Messiah's people. You will see highlights of this work today.

Our headings are:

Bad Things that Happened to Jesus that Friday

Good Things that Happened to the World the Following Day

Our goals are: That, as a covenant child, you will be refreshed as you see the work of Christ on your behalf when he suffered and died on the cross, and that you will be moved to give him the glory for the blessings you have received through his suffering.

Bad Things That Happened to Jesus that Friday

1 My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from helping Me, And from the words of My groaning? 2 O My God, I cry in the daytime, but You do not hear; And in the night season, and am not silent. 3 But You are holy, Enthroned in the praises of Israel. 4 Our fathers trusted in You; They trusted, and You delivered them. 5 They cried to You, and were delivered; They trusted in You, and were not ashamed.

1. Jesus was deserted by his Father when he was on the cross.

His desertion by his Father was the worst suffering of all. No wonder David started here! His Father turned his face from him. And notice how Jesus directly applied David's words to himself.

Mark 15:34 And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" which is translated, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

David illustrated the Father's desertion by showing how Jesus, your covenant keeper, cried to his Father who refused to hear him. Jesus probably prayed for all 6 hours on the cross with no relief from his Father. He turned his ear from his Son's cry.

There is something that made God's desertion of his Son worse: Even sinning men in the past God had delivered, but not his Son on the cross. Abraham committed adultery and God restored him. David committed murder and God restored him. Solomon worshipped idols and God forgave him. But the Father did not rescue your Covenant Keeper. Surely this intensified Jesus' suffering which he experienced for you.

And don't forget Jesus was deserted by his family and friends on earth. They turned their backs on him. They denied him. They betrayed him. They fled from him. (Mark 14:50)

6 But I am a worm, and no man; A reproach of men, and despised by the people.

2. Jesus was weakened, reproached, and hated.

Weak. An old translation described Jesus as being a "weak" worm. "Worm" was not used in the sense of how we use "worm" today—as an underhanded person. "Worm" then showed weakness. Jesus was accused of being helpless – a worm.

Matthew 27:42 - "He saved others; Himself He cannot save. If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him.

Reproached. "Reproached" means to censure or rebuke. The Jewish leaders, men with high degrees of wretchedness, rebuked the God of glory. Yes, He was holy, harmless, and undefiled, but he was reproached and despised by wicked men.

Despised. Jesus had no comfort or solace as he was hanging on the tree because he was suffering the censure of God for you. Rather, he felt hate. He was not giving the Jews what they wanted—a military leader to fight-off Rome. So they hated him.

7 All those who see Me ridicule Me; They shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying, 8 "He trusted in the LORD, let Him rescue Him; Let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him!" 9 But You are He who took Me out of the womb; You made Me trust while on My mother's breasts.

3. Jesus was laughed to scorn.

Laughing Jesus hurt him without doubt. Who laughs a dying man, even if he had done wickedly? Jesus pointed out he learned to trust when he was a child and nursed from his mother, but now the wicked laughed at him, betrayed him and put him to death. His trust in humanity was gone. This intensified his suffering.

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.

4. Jesus was emptied for you.

He was poured out as water is poured out of a vessel...referring to his many tears and sweat in Gethsemane when he felt alone...a loneliness only he could understand. You can only have a hint of loneliness, but he had no family or friends around to

negate the pain of loneliness. And once those tears were spilled (like water) they could not be un-spilled.

His bones felt out of joint so he had no strength to fight – being weakened. This is the stuff of nightmares. He was surrounded by bulls of Bashan with no working bones to run. **He felt overwhelmed.**

His heart melted from the heat of God’s punishment. It was not a rock anymore. Jesus had to feel this way because he was being punished for you and for 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.**

5. Jesus was tortured for you.

All his substance was gone. Like dry clay pots, potsherds, all his juices had dried up. **His tongue was dry and stuck to the roof of his mouth.** This was an awful physical torture...to have a dried mouth...and **he felt it was time to die – to go to dust.**

16 For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet;

6. Jesus was surrounded and pierced.

Jesus enemies were already called bulls, and lions (V10-13). Now they were called dogs, and not the kind over fed domestic animals many have today. It was a picture of wild dogs with blood dripping from their mouths. He had to face them alone!

Jesus was then nailed on a green tree. With all the threat and troubles there was no one there to support him. His family and friends turned their backs to him and denied **they even knew him. And others abandoned or denied him.**

Yet with all of this desertion, Jesus cried out:

Matthew 26:42 –O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, your will be done.

He knew he had to do this by himself, knowing **his own family and friends were full of sin.**

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.

7. Jesus was shamed.

They could count the bones on his ribs. This was a picture of poverty and starvation. You have seen the pictures of Hitler’s concentration camps...and the starvation of Eastern Africa.

They could see his nakedness.

They could see him die on the painful and shameful cross.

8. Some more lessons to consider:

a. Bad things had to happen to Jesus so you would have good things happen to you. He died so you could live. Your freedom from sin wasn’t free.

b. Jesus did not blame his Father for his troubles. He endured your reproach so you don’t have to.

c. The people who mock Jesus today, as they did at the cross, are the ones who need him the most! Don’t ignore them. Don’t be so angry that you wish them bad.

d. Jesus’ mocking was physical, mental, and spiritual, and in some of the most unimaginable ways.

Good Things that Happened to the world the Following Day

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

1. Jesus’ name, as a result of his suffering and death, would be declared through preaching afterward.

His servants would declare his name. I am doing that today. There is a particular focus on being in the assembly of believers.

But all men must also declare the name of Jesus to their wives...children...friends...and enemies. To preach his “name” is to preach of Christ’s saving death and his benefits. It is not chanting his name. It is not saying, “Jesus, Jesus, Jesus,” as some people do in some churches. It is to clearly and passionately promote the perfect life of obedience for sinners and promote this painful and shameful death on the cross.

26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied; Those who seek Him will praise the LORD. Let your heart live forever!

2. Jesus’ grace, when given as food and received through faith, gives an assurance to the hearer. No guest is neglected. All are welcomed to eat and live. Ho, everyone who thirsts...

As men eat this good news, they will sing his praises in their joyful souls.

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.

3. Jesus’ grace, when it is spread, will cause the families of the earth to turn to him and recognize him as Lord of all.

The world would recognize his work...to the remotest ends.

This is not pointing to a sporadic number of believers...but all the nations... God said to Abram: In You all the nations of the world will be blessed...Africans, Chinese, South American, and Canadians!

30 **A posterity shall serve Him.** It will be **recounted of the Lord to the next generation,**

4. Jesus seed will continue to pass on this message to their children and grandchildren.

The worship of the Lord will never be finished...but Christians will teach of Christ’s death to their children so that they too will believe and worship the Lord.

5. Lessons:

a. Don’t stop telling others of Christ and his work. Tell it to the world. Send it to the world. This brings glory to him. The ends of all the earth shall hear...with or without you.

b. Train your children to continue to pass on the message of Jesus. Make sure they know Jesus is much more than a man who loves them and has angels watching over them. Tell them of the bloody cross.

Conclusion:

Jesus was deserted, weakened, reproached, tortured, laughed at, betrayed, pierced, shamed, and eventually killed. He did not deserve to go through these torments; you did. But he loved you. His condescension is unparalleled. This knowledge of Christ’s work in your place should bring refreshment to your soul. He made you a child fit for heaven. He gave you access to God. He made you an ambassador of righteousness. He guarantees you a certain and bright future. As a result of his work, he gained glory for himself.

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ:

1. Be clear announcers of Jesus’ good news to your family, your friends, your enemies, even to all the peoples on earth. Let them hear and turn to the Lord in fear.

2. Don’ be bogged down by little things. Don’t worry if you don’t have food... clothing... health...cars... or employment. The big thing has been resolved. **If the Lord has the power to help you with the big thing – your eternal salvation, do you think the little things are difficult for him?** And hasn’t he assured you that he will meet all your needs?

Finally, if you don't not know Jesus, his offer still stands today to all who come. You can be free from the load of your sins. You may have committed the worst sins imaginable, but he already took the punishment so you can go free. Stop carrying that load and turn it over to the Lord. Cast your burdens on the Lord and he will sustain you.