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Psalm 22:1-18

1. “My God, my God, why have You forsaken me? Far from my deliverance are the words of my groaning.
2. O my God, I cry by day, but You do not answer; and by night, but I have no rest.
3. Yet You are holy, O You who are enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
4. In You our fathers trusted; they trusted and You delivered them.
5. To You they cried out and were delivered; in You they trusted and were not disappointed.
6. But I am a worm and not a man, a reproach of men and despised by the people.
7. All who see me sneer at me; they separate with the lip, they wag the head, saying,
8. ‘Commit yourself to the LORD; let Him deliver him; let Him rescue him, because He delights in him.’
9. Yet You are He who brought me forth from the womb; You made me trust when upon my mother’s breasts.
10. Upon You I was cast from birth; You have been my God from my mother’s womb.
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 open wide their mouth at me, as a ravening and a roaring lion.

14. I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within me.

15. My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue cleaves to my jaws; and You lay me in the dust of death.

16. For dogs have surrounded me; a band of evildoers has encompassed me; they pierced my hands and my feet.

17. I can count all my bones. They look, they stare at me;

18. They divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.”

In those last three verses, Psalm 22:16, 17, and 18, the crucifixion of someone is very clearly portrayed. “For dogs have surrounded me; a band of evildoers has encompassed me; they pierced my hands and my feet.” This crucifixion is especially interesting since crucifying people was not a Jewish practice. The Jewish way was death by stoning.

Verse 17 states, “I can count all my bones.”

Whoever this is happening to does not have any broken bones. In the case of someone being stoned many bones are broken or even shattered.

Also note: They did not break Jesus’ bones; they did break the bones of the thieves with which He was hanging. But He was dead when the Roman soldiers

arrived, and it was not necessary for them to kill Him on the cross by breaking his legs.

Verse 18 goes on to say, “They look, they stare at me; they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.” This is a perfect description of what the Roman soldiers did with Jesus’ belongings as He hung in agony overhead.

This is documented in all four gospel accounts: Matthew 27:35, Mark 15:24, Luke 23:34, and John 19:23 and 24.

David wrote Psalm 22 1000 years before Jesus was born. And David was not crucified. Whoever this Psalm is about died a Roman death. Whoever this Psalm is about cried out, “My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken me?” (Psalm 22:1; Matthew 27:46).

If Jesus were just pretending to be the Messiah, you would think that He would stop short of being crucified. After all, life is short enough without that sort of thing. Unless He knew ahead of time that He was going to be raised from the dead--in which case He would not have to pretend that He was the Messiah.

The crucifixion of Jesus Christ and the specific details concerning His death, like this Psalm written 1000 years before the fact, stand all tests of time and unbelief. The word of God stands. All men are, undeniably, without excuse before our Creator.