

# The Psalms:

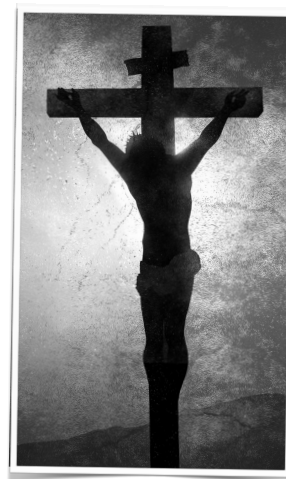
## “Why Have You Forsaken Me?”

Having reached the life of David in our search for the King, we’re looking at several of the psalms written by David. Where are they quoted in the New Testament? Why? How are they used by the apostles and Gospel-writers? What’s the connection to Jesus? How do they help us see our own King more clearly and understand his mission and will for our lives?



**Matthew 27:45-50** describes the last moments of Jesus’ agonizing death on a cross:

Now from the **sixth hour** → We would say \_\_\_\_:00 PM  
there was darkness over  
all the land until the **ninth hour**. → We would say \_\_\_\_:00 PM  
And about the ninth hour Jesus  
cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?”  
that is, “My God, my God, \_\_\_\_\_ have you  
\_\_\_\_\_ me?” And some of the bystanders,  
hearing it, said, “This man is calling Elijah.” And one of them at  
once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on  
a reed and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, “Wait, let us  
see whether Elijah will come to save him.” And Jesus cried out  
again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.



In fact, Jesus *wasn’t* calling out for Elijah. He was quoting the first line of **Psalm 22**, a thousand-year-old psalm of David. But why quote anything? Why now? Of all the passages throughout the Old Testament, why **Psalm 22**? Notice some of its verses in light of what Jesus was enduring at this pivotal moment:

All who see me \_\_\_\_\_ me;  
they make mouths at me; they wag their heads... (22:6-8, 12-13)  
I am poured out like water,  
and all my \_\_\_\_\_ are out of joint;  
my heart is like wax... (22:14-15)  
...they have \_\_\_\_\_ my hands and feet...  
...they divide my \_\_\_\_\_ among them,  
and for my clothing they cast lots. (22:16-18)

**What’s the connection?** Of all the passages Jesus could reach back to, why **Psalm 22**? What was David doing by writing it? What does its connection to **Matthew 27** teach us about the Bible? About Jesus? What do we need to see and believe? **Let’s talk about it...**

## For Class & Family Discussion:

- What do you think? By quoting just the first line of [Psalm 22](#), what is Jesus doing?
  
- Let's have our Bibles open to [Psalm 22](#) and [Matthew 27](#), where Matthew makes a number of very deliberate connections. Where in [Matthew 27](#) do you see a connection to:
  - ➡ Psalm 22:7 ..... Matthew 27:\_\_\_\_\_
  - ➡ Psalm 22:8 ..... Matthew 27:\_\_\_\_\_
  - ➡ Psalm 22:18..... Matthew 27:\_\_\_\_\_
  
- What is Matthew doing by making these clear connections? What is [Psalm 22](#) really about, and what does he want us to believe about Jesus by leaning so heavily on it?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- But [Psalm 22](#) doesn't *only* have bad news. Notice [22:22-26](#). The writer of Hebrews quotes [Psalm 22:22](#) in [Hebrews 2:12](#). Why? What point is he making in [Hebrews 2:10-15](#)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- And what about [Psalm 22:27-31](#)? What do you see? After all of the suffering described earlier in the psalm, what powerful point is being made? How would you summarize the big idea in your own words?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- How does [Psalm 22](#) deepen our understanding of what Jesus was experiencing and feeling on the cross?

## For NEXT Sunday:

- Read and meditate on [Psalm 16](#). The apostle Peter will quote [Psalm 16](#) in his famous sermon on the Day of Pentecost in [Acts 2:25-28](#). **Why?** What does [Psalm 16](#) have to do with our search for our King?