**Psalm 22** 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. **6**But I *am* a worm, and no man; A reproach of men, and despised by the people. **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. **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*

 We’re in the Easter season. Many times, we want to concentrate in the New Testament. We hover in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. It’s good to read the Gospels, but tonight, we’re in Psalm 22 – we’ll be focusing on verses 1-18. Psalm 22 was written by King David more than 1000 years before the birth of Jesus Christ. King David was inspired by the Holy Spirit and wrote one of the most prophetic pieces of scripture. The Jewish people believe that this was written about King David or that David was talking about the Jewish nation. But we know who King David was talking about… he was not speaking of himself when he wrote these words… he was speaking of Jesus. He was speaking of the Savior of the world soon to come who would fulfill the words David wrote.

 In Psalm 22:1 we read My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? *Why are You so* far from helping Me, *And from* the words of My groaning? Listen to Jesus in Matthew 27:46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” that is, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” Some claim that Jesus was simply quoting Psalm 22. I’m telling you tonight that the very Word of God made flesh was quoting His own words and fulfilling the prophecy.

 Psalm 22:2 **2**O My God, I cry in the daytime, but You do not hear; And in the night season, and am not silent. We know that Jesus was crucified in the daytime. We also know that from noon until 3 pm that darkness overspread the land. He was crying out in the day and He was crying out in the night. 2 Corinthians 5:21 tells us For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. Christ became sin in my place, in your place. Habakkuk 1:13 says You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, And cannot look on wickedness. Genesis 6:5 makes it clear that God sees sin - Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. God is all powerful – He sees our sin. Habakkuk was saying – God doesn’t see sin with an approving eye! God turned away from His only Son, as Christ took on the sins of all man. Make no mistake – Christ had no sin until He took it from fallen man.

Psalm 22:3-5 **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. From suffering to praise, Jesus knows that God will raise Him from the dead. He knows that God is to be trusted.

Psalm 22:6-8 **6**But I *am* a worm, and no man; A reproach of men, and despised by the people. **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!” Listen to Luke 23:35 **35**And the people stood looking on. But even the rulers with them sneered, saying, “He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ, the chosen of God.” Only the blind can miss this prophecy!! The people stand around and ridicule him. To shoot out the lip is an act of contempt. They shake their heads. Prophecy before their eyes and they refuse to see. We see the same today! Prophecy is being fulfilled all around us, but the world refuses to see. IN Mark 4:23 Jesus says - If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear. We must have the spiritual ears to hear, the spiritual eyes to see… we do not see what we refuse to see.

Psalm 22:14-15 **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. We know from ancient historians that, as a person hangs on the cross, bones are pulled out of joint, it’s gets hard to breathe, the heart has a harder and harder time beating and feels heavy, and strength slowly fails as the dying one works to get just one more breath. Then, in John 19:28 we read 28 After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, “I thirst!” Sounds an awful lot like His tongue would be clinging to His jaws doesn’t it.

 Psalm 22:16-18 **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. We know that Jesus hands and feet were pierced with nails. People stood gawking at Him. Then we read in Matthew 27:35 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.” A direct fulfillment of scripture… yet, many refuse to hear.

1000 years before Jesus, David spoke these words. At this Easter time, we see the Truth revealed. Yet, when the Bible tells us that anyone who does not believe in Jesus and confess Him as Savior will be condemned to Hell, we don’t seem to have an urgency about sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. During this Easter season, be assured… if it is in the Bible, it has either come to pass, is coming to pass, or will come to pass. It is so obvious when we compare Psalm 22. How can we not believe with an alarming urgency that any of our loved ones who refuse to call on the name of Jesus will not be with us in Heaven? 1000 years and the Jews didn’t believe. 2000 years and people still refuse to believe. How long before God declares Enough! And we see Jesus coming to gather His children.