

Psalm 22

English Standard Version

To the choirmaster: according to The Doe of the Dawn. A Psalm of David.

22 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

² O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest.

³ Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

⁴ In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.

⁵ To you they cried and were rescued; in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

⁶ But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

⁷ All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;

⁸ “He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!”

⁹ Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts.

¹⁰ On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God.

¹¹ Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.

¹² Many bulls encompass me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me;

¹³ they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and 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 my breast;

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

¹⁶ For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me;

they have pierced my hands and feet—

¹⁷ I can count all my bones—

they stare and gloat over me;

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

¹⁹ But you, O LORD, do not be far off! O you my help, come quickly to my aid!

²⁰ Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog!

²¹ Save me from the mouth of the lion!

You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!

²² I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

²³ You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

²⁴ For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him,

but has heard, when he cried to him.

²⁵ From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him.

²⁶ The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.

²⁸ For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

²⁹ All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive.

³⁰ Posterity shall serve him; it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;

³¹ they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

Additional questions for thought and discussion:

Inductive Bible Study

(A few general ideas)

Observation
(What does it say?)

What facts do you **observe** about the passage that help bring out the writer’s thought process?

- Who are the people involved?
- What action takes place?
- What type of literature is it (poetry, history, didactic, etc.)?
- What details are included or left out?
- Are any unusual words used?
- Is there symbolic language?
- What is the grammar of the passage (pronouns, prepositions, verb tenses)?
- Are words or ideas repeated?
- Any comparisons or contrasts?
- Any cause and effect?
- Are there indications of purpose (“in order that...”)?
- Are there conclusions (“Therefore...”)?
- Are there explanations?
- Does the passage logically break into sections?
- How would you summarize the passage?
- What would be a good “headline” for the passage?

Interpretation
(What does it mean?)

What questions come to mind about the facts that would help you **interpret** the meaning?

- How would the original readers have understood the passage?
- What is the main emphasis?
- Why does the writer use repetition, or contrast, or unusual words?
- What does the grammar or structure of the passage reveal about the writer’s thought pattern?
- Is there a logical sequence in the passage?
- How are different ideas in the passage connected?
- Are there any new ideas or concepts presented?
- Are there difficulties in the passage?

Application
(What does it mean for me?)

What is the impact on your life? What **application** does the Holy Spirit want to show you?

- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there a promise to be thankful for?
- Is there an attribute of God to worship?
- Is there an example to follow?

**Read nothing into the Scriptures, but draw everything from them, and suffer nothing to remain hidden that is really in them.
J.A. Bengel (1687-1752)**