Are You Forsaken?

Ken Chapman · Psalm 22

INTRODUCTION

- It wasn't the physical contact that I dreaded so much. It was the anxiety of not knowing where that physical contact was to come from.
- Do you ever feel that way in life? That you are just surrounded by problems.
- It's a psalm that prophesies the suffering, and the death of Jesus Christ.

1 In Our Struggles, We Still Trust God

Psalm 22:1–5

- I think that, if nothing else, the human side of Jesus felt forsaken by his father.
- Why have you forsaken me? Not in the sense, why have you totally and forever abandoned me, but why are you allowing me to go through this?
- Verse 3, but you were holy, enthroned in the praises of Israel. Our fathers trusted in you.
- In our struggles, in our uncertainties, we still trust God. Though we don't understand.
- I see the track record of what you've done for others. And I know that you will do that for me.

2 I Am a Worm, But You Are My God

Psalm 22:6–11; Romans 8:31

- I am a worm and no man. A reproach of men and despised by the people.
- That's not him saying, that's the way I feel about myself, but, as the following verses point out, that's the way I'm being treated.
- The contrast I think we're to see there is the world's view of Christ and the Father's view of Christ. And it was the Father's view that sustained him.
- I'm trying to please just one. And that's God.

3 Surrounded by Bulls, Lions and Dogs

Psalm 22:12–18

- My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue clings to my jaws.
- Have you ever felt just at the end of your rope, that you just can't do it anymore.
- It's gone because of the opposition and the temptation and the hardship and the anxieties of life.
- Dogs have surrounded me. The congregation of the wicked have enclosed me. They pierced my hands and my feet.
- Before it was even a thing, David prophesied of the method currently unknown in his time of how Jesus would die.

4 God Be With Me; You Have Answered Me

Psalm 22:19–21

- Save me from the lion's mouth and from the horns of the wild oxen.
- Sometimes in your darkest hours, when you feel that you've reached the end of your rope, just utter that four-word prayer. God be with me.
- God can answer our prayers any way he wants to. And in his wisdom, he often answers those prayers different than what we're asking.
- The big picture is that I be in fellowship with God here and in eternity.
- Another protection might be that God is with us as we pass through that fire.

5 Because You Have Answered Me, I Will Praise

Psalm 22:22–31

- Verse 22, because you have answered me, I will declare your name to my brethren. In the midst of the assembly, I will praise you.
- You answered my prayer, not maybe in the way that I wanted it answered, but in your infinite wisdom, in a better, more glorious way.
- I am here not just to fulfill some legal obligation, not just to check some box. I am here to praise my God because He's answered me.
- Not just will I praise God, but my behavior will be changed.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Have confidence that God can be and is with you through whatever struggles you have in life. Know that the answer to your prayers may be far better than you ever imagined. And declare his name in the assembly.**

MY NOTES