

'Why have you forsaken me?' Psalm 22

(Matthew 27v46; Mark 15v34)

Psalms are full of **Prayer**, **Praise** and **Prophecy** – The last can at times seem a bit obscure to us, however that can't be said of Psalm 22.

Read v8, 14-16&18, and compare it to what is recorded in the gospels about Jesus' crucifixion and death; remembering this Psalm was written about 400 years before crucifixion was devised and practised by the Persians.

However the most important question is:

'What did Jesus death on the cross achieve?'

Hebrews 2v9 'he might taste death for everyone'

2 Corinthians 5v21 'He became sin, we become righteous'

(cf Isaiah 53v6; Romans 3v25; 1 Corinthians 15v3)

The ultimate consequence of sin is separation from God; and, in Christ's becoming a substitute for sinful men upon the cross, he not only tasted of death, but also tasted the terrible consequences of sin in that soul-torturing experience of separation from the Creator.

Psalm 22v1 'The cry of dereliction', when even though forsaken the cry is still 'My God, my God!' in these words we hear 'The anguish of relief not yet granted' (NIV Study Bible). There is no lack of trust in God the Father from God the Son, 'but in crying "My God, why have you forsaken me," we believe that Jesus did indeed, taste the awful agony of separation from the Father. The Perfect Man was alone with the sins of the whole world.'

