

## **INTRODUCTION TO PSALM 22**

1. This psalm is an individual lament and thanksgiving psalm.
  - a. Lament – 22:1-21
  - b. Thanksgiving – 22:22-32
2. This is a psalm of David, possibly written during the Absalom rebellion, 1027 BC; however, there is no known incident in the life of David that fits the details of this psalm.  
**NOTE:** David was born in 1085 BC, anointed king over Judah at Hebron at age 30, 1055 BC, and died 1015 BC.
3. The psalmist felt forsaken and surrounded by his enemies who scorned and persecuted him. He lamented his tremendous suffering and anticipating his death pleaded with God to deliver him from that fate. His prayers were answered, and he was able to declare to believing Israel and to the world that the Lord hears our prayers and will eventually rule the nations in righteousness.
4. However, this psalm described an execution, not an illness or a combat wound. It is more appropriate to connect this psalm with the crucifixion of Jesus Christ than with some incident in the life of David.
5. In fact, Psalm 22 is one of the greatest prophecies concerning Jesus Christ in the Bible, which is evidence of its divine inspiration and authorship. Two other great prophetic passages concerning Jesus Christ are Genesis 22:1-18 and Isa. 52:13-Isa. 53.
6. Some in the early church have suggested that Psalm 22 is a “fifth gospel,” seeing this psalm as typological of the death of Jesus Christ.
7. It is also interesting to note that this psalm does not include one word of confession of sins and no imprecation (prayer for judgment) against enemies.
8. There are at least 15 messianic quotations from or allusions to this psalm that were demonstrably fulfilled in the New Testament.
9. The probability that all 15 of these would be fulfilled in Jesus Christ over 1000 years later is beyond random chance.
10. The 15 statements are as follows:
  1. Matt. 4:16, Luke 1:79, and 2 Peter 1:19 fulfill verse 1-a
  2. Matt. 27:46 and Mark 15:34 fulfill verse 1-b
  3. Matt. 26:37-45 and Matt. 26:46 fulfill verse 2

4. Matt. 27:39-44 and Mark 15:29-32 fulfill verse 7
5. Matt. 27:43 fulfills verse 8
6. Luke 1:31, 32 fulfill verse 10
7. John 19:28 fulfills verse 15
8. Mark 15:16-20 fulfill verse 16-a, b
9. Matt. 27:35, Luke 24:39, and John 20:25 fulfill verse 16-c
10. Matt, 27:39-42 and Luke 23:35-37 fulfill verse 17
11. Matt. 27:35, Luke 23 34, and John 19:23, 24, 25a fulfill verse 18
12. Hebrews 2:11, 12 fulfill verse 22
13. John 6:57, 58 fulfill verse 26
14. Revelation 2:26, 27; 12:5; and 19:15 fulfill verse 28
15. John 19:30 and Heb. 5:7 fulfill verse 31