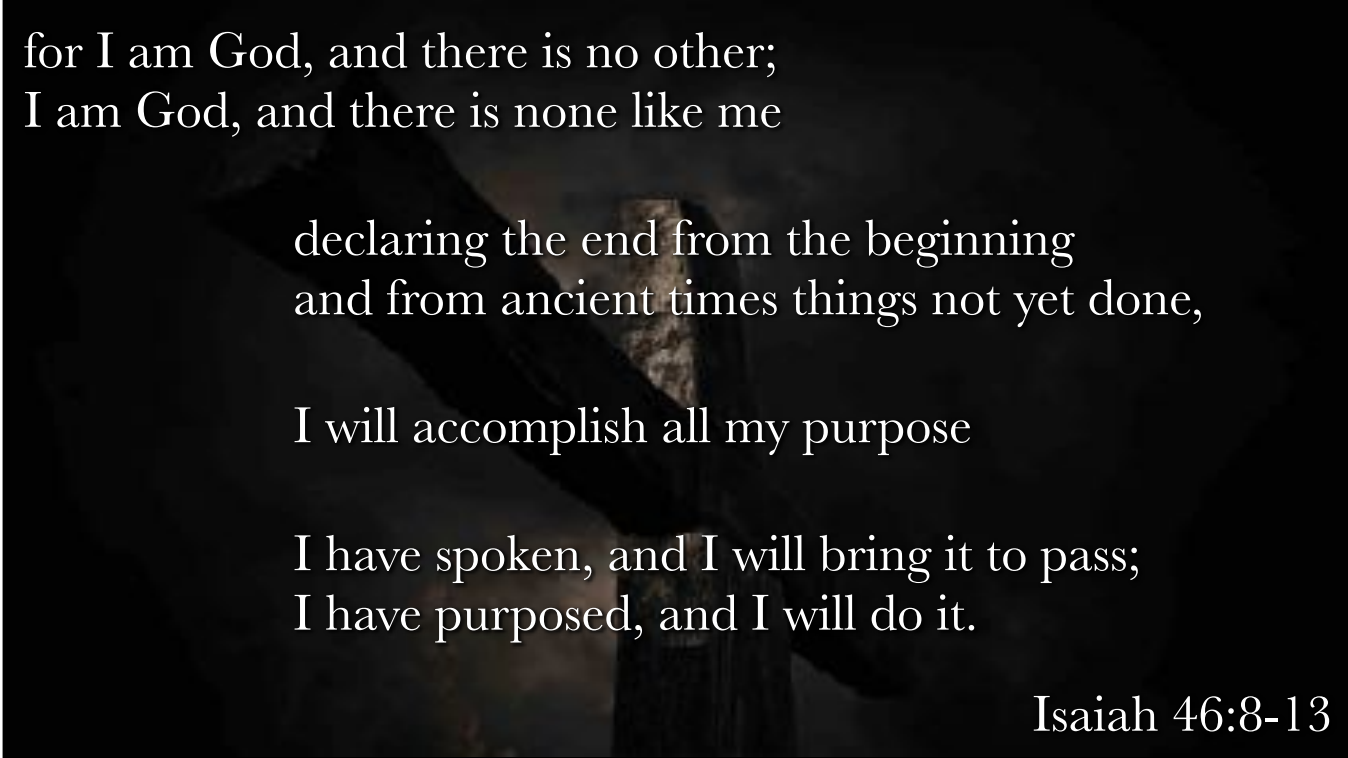


The Power of the Cross

Part 1 - A Prophecy

1 Corinthians 1:17; Psalm 22

- 1 Corinthians 1:17
 - Sean tried to make an AI image of a cross with biceps for my lesson



for I am God, and there is no other;
I am God, and there is none like me

declaring the end from the beginning
and from ancient times things not yet done,

I will accomplish all my purpose

I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass;
I have purposed, and I will do it.

Isaiah 46:8-13

- Isaiah 46:8-13 — “Remember this and stand firm, recall it to mind, you transgressors, 9 remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, 10 declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose,’ 11 calling a bird of prey from the east, the man of my counsel from a far country. I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass; I have purposed, and I will do it.

for I am **God**, and there is no other;
I am **God**, and there is none like me

DECLARING the end from the beginning
and from ancient times things not yet done,

I will accomplish all my PURPOSE

I have SPOKEN, and I will bring it to pass;
I have PURPOSED, and I will do it.

Isaiah 46:8-13

- Note the proof God offers for himself is that he has a purpose, and he declares that purpose.
- That purpose is vast in scope

for I am **God**, and there is no other;
I am **God**, and there is none like me

DECLARING the end from the beginning
and from ancient times things not yet done,

I will accomplish all my purpose

I have SPOKEN, and I will bring it to pass;
I have PURPOSED, and I will do it.

Isaiah 46:8-13

- The second aspect that proves his deity is his power.
- Not just that he makes plans and has a purpose
- But that he makes it happen
 - He didn't just "see the future".
 - He decided what would happen and he made it happen.
- So this passage emphasizes Jehovah's uniqueness
 - His wisdom in making a plan and a purpose that spans all of time
 - His power in making that plan happen
 - Unlimited power: Almighty

for I am **God**, and there is no other;
I am **God**, and there is none like me

DECLARING the end from the beginning
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I have SPOKEN, and I will bring it to pass;
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Isaiah 46:8-13

- So this passage emphasizes Jehovah's uniqueness
 - His wisdom in making a plan and a purpose that spans all of time
 - He did not just "see" the future and say what was going to happen
 - He determined what would happen.
 - His power in making that plan happen
 - Unlimited power: Almighty

for I am God, and there is no other;
I am God, and there is none like me

my righteousness

declaring the end from the beginning
and from ancient times things not yet done,

I will accomplish all my purpose

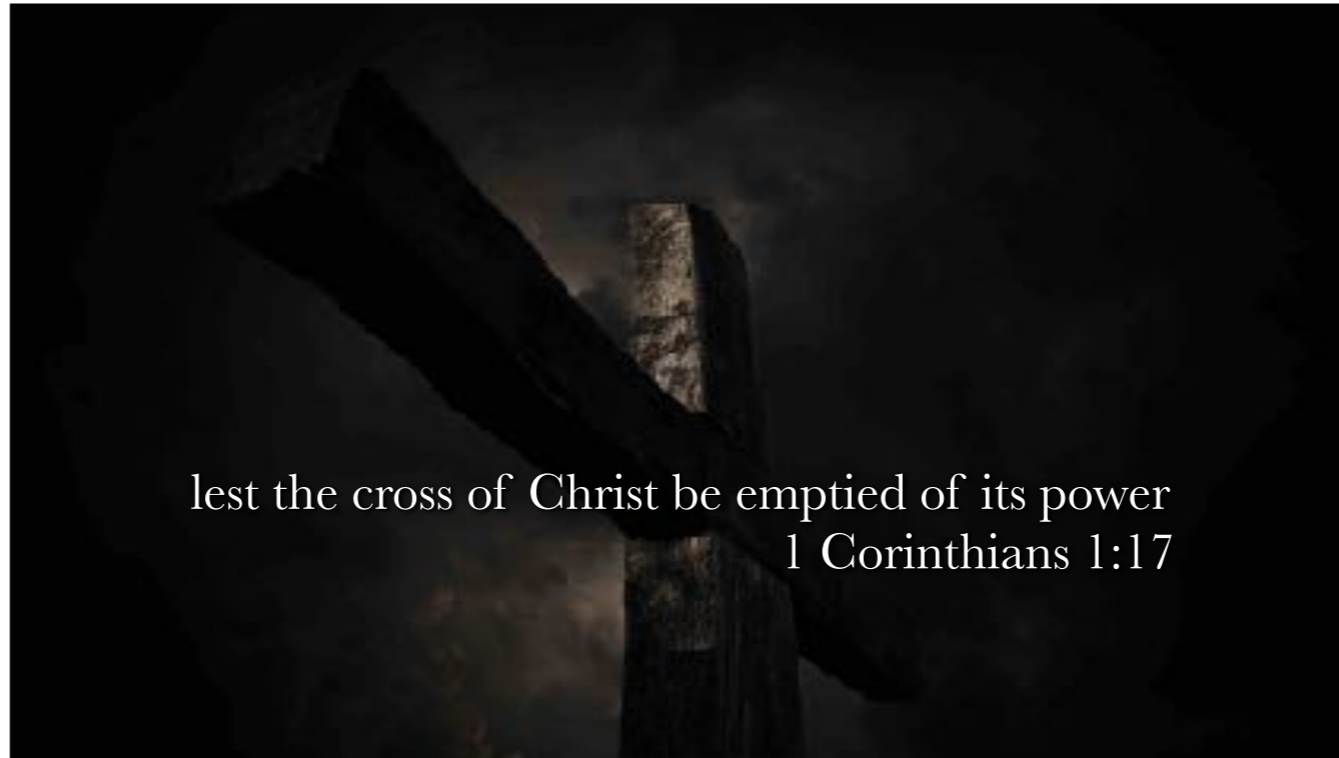
my salvation

I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass:
I have purposed, and I will do it.

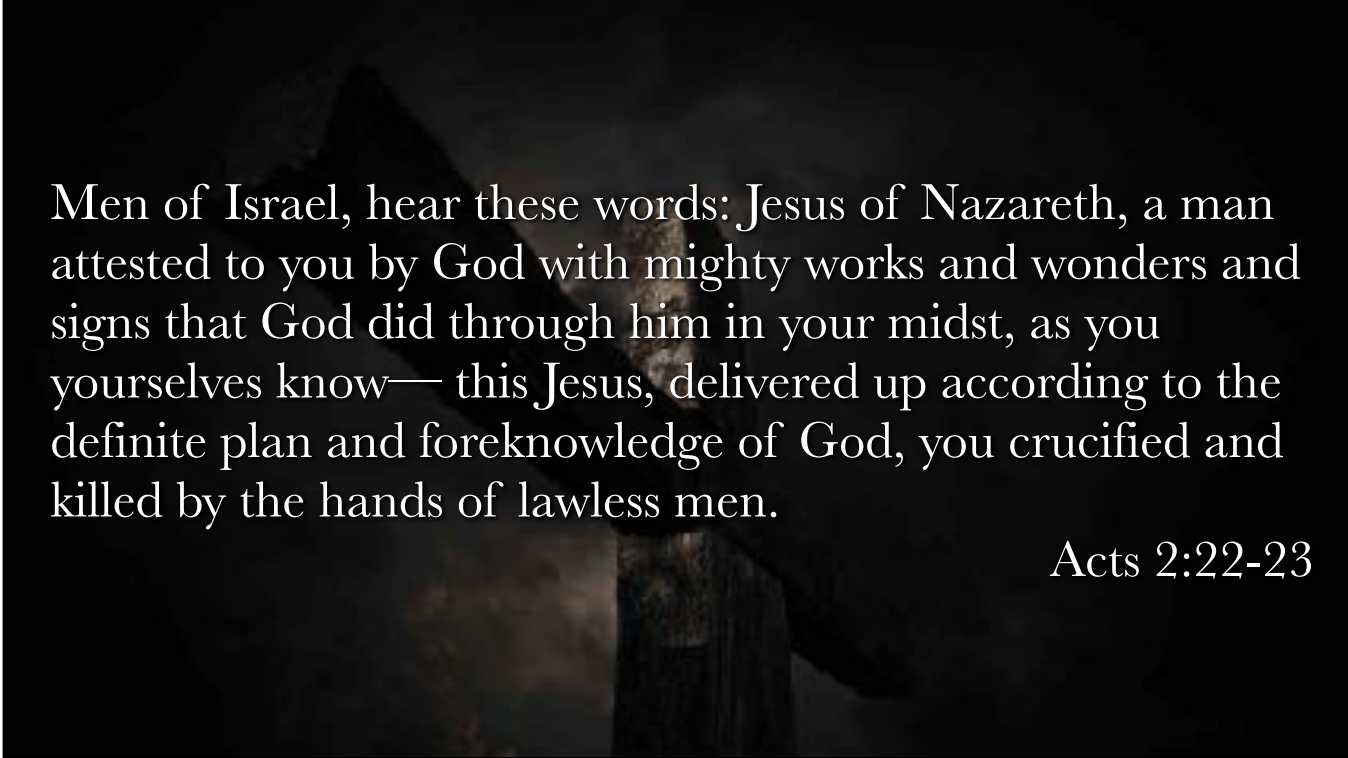
my glory

Isaiah 46:8-13

- 12 “Listen to me, you stubborn of heart, you who are far from righteousness:
- 13 I bring near my righteousness; it is not far off, and my salvation will not delay; I will put salvation in Zion, for Israel my glory.”



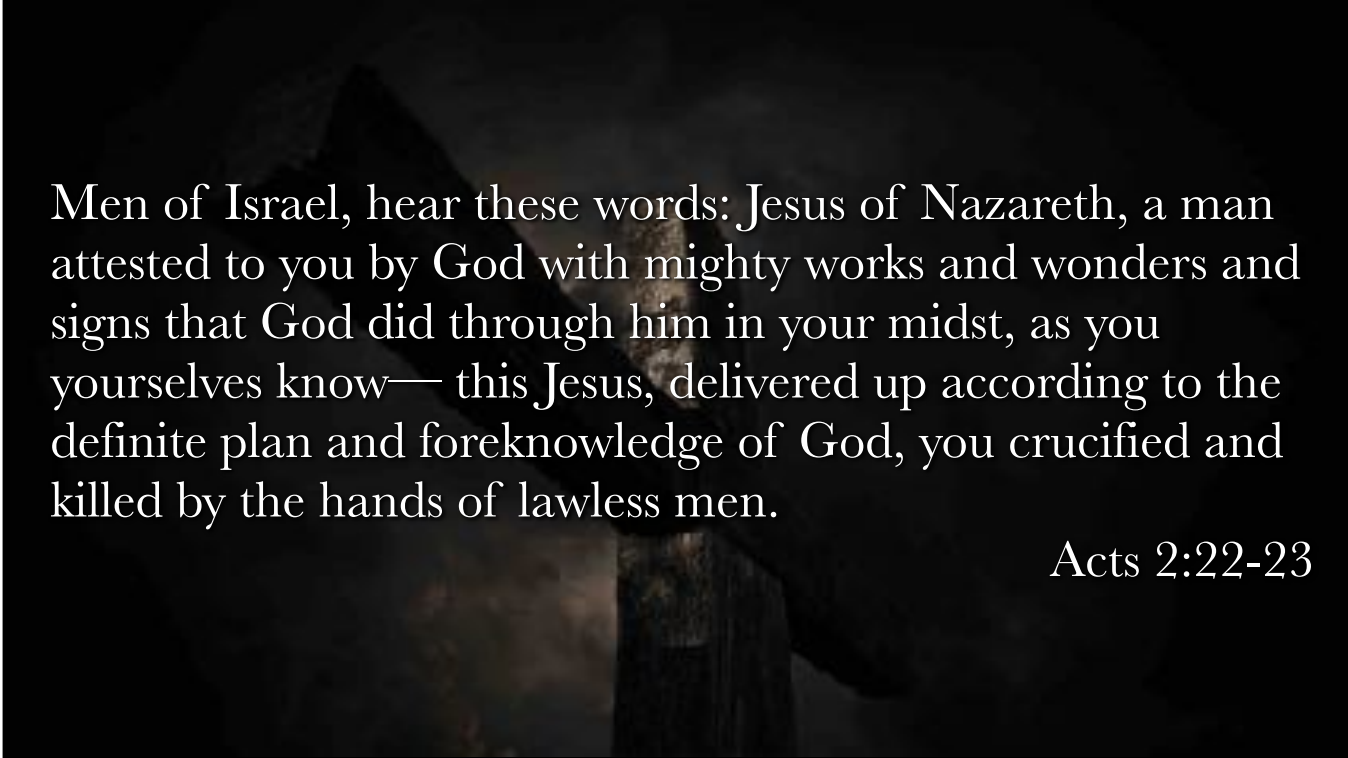
- 1 Corinthians 1:17 For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.
- It's interesting that of all people, Paul was aware of the power of the cross
 - He was of an age that it's possible that he witnessed the death of Jesus on the cross
 - Or at least was aware of what had happened.



Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.

Acts 2:22-23

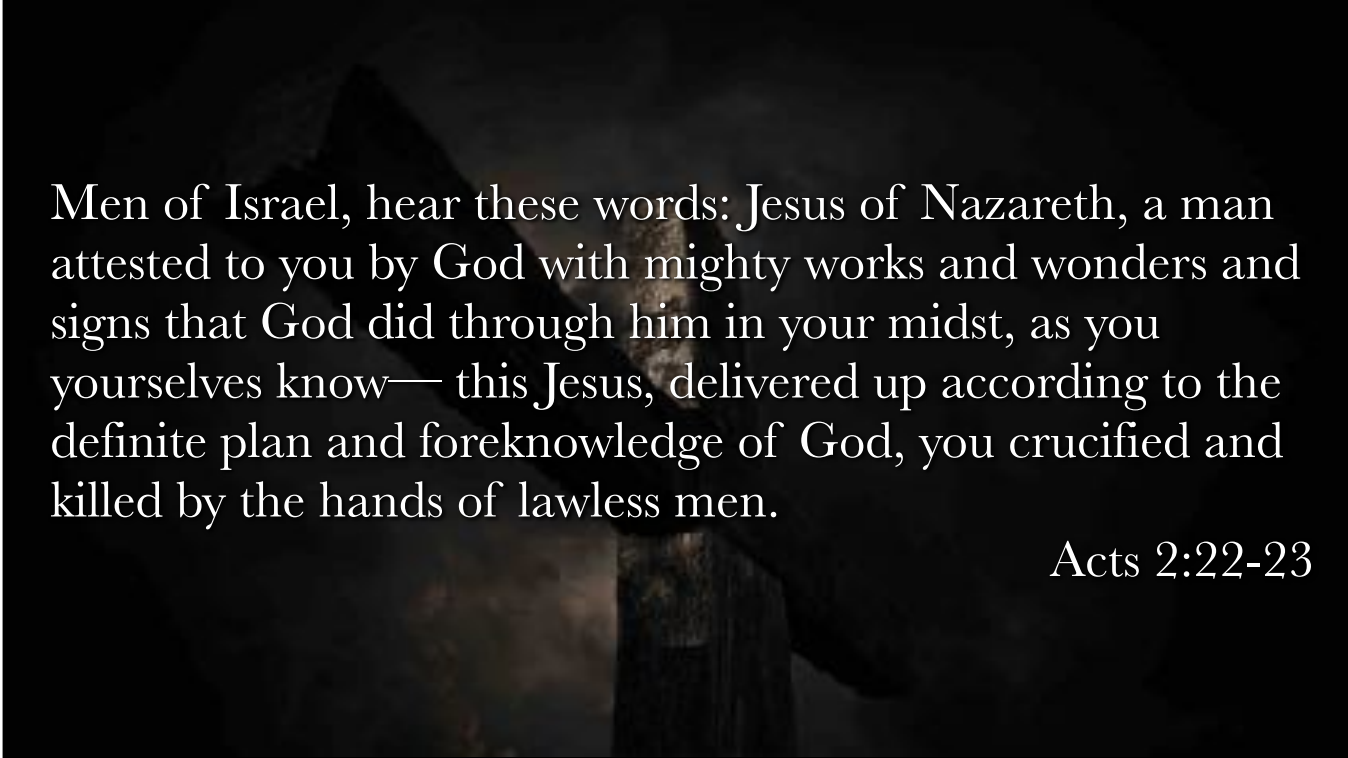
- Acts 2:22-23 “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, **as you yourselves know**— 23 this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.
- Peter emphasizes that not only did God do many miracles
 - But that they were generally well known among the Jews



Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.

Acts 2:22-23

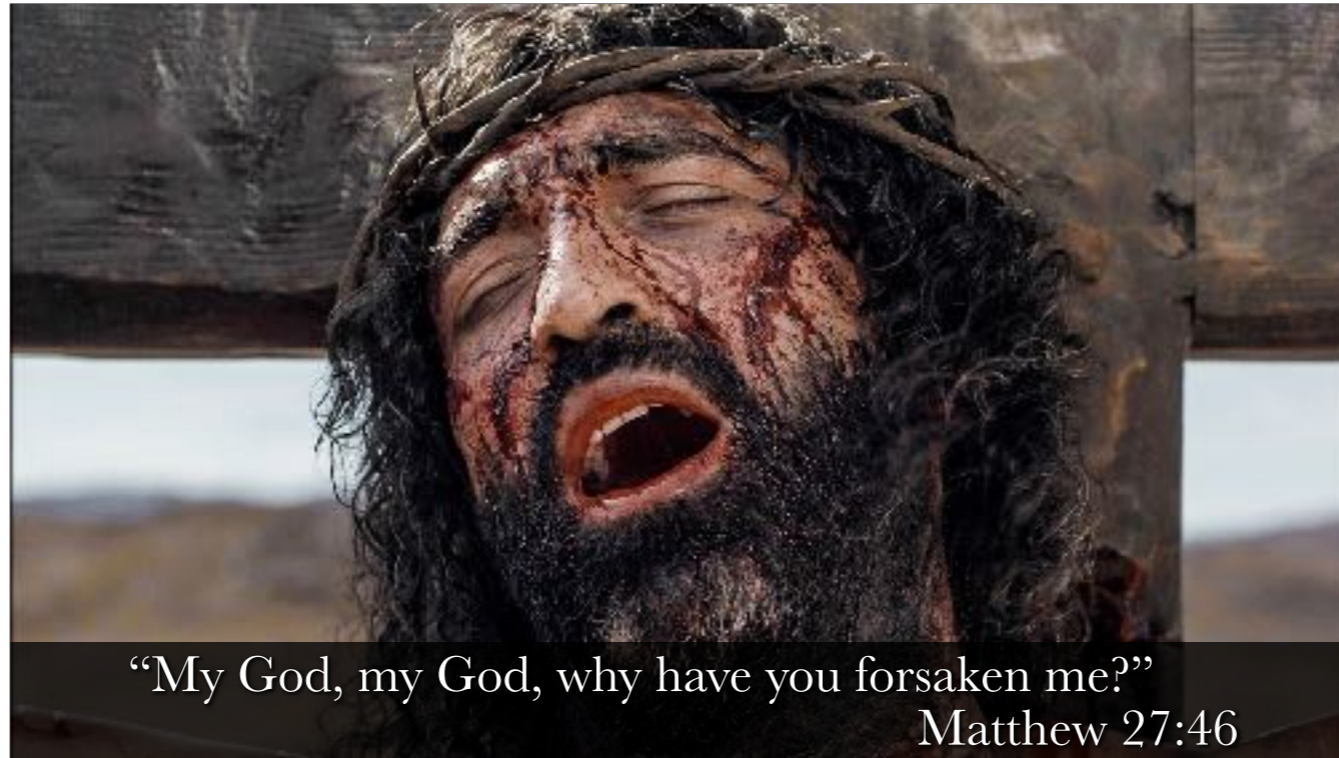
- While Jesus walked this earth God was providing clear proof that he was the Messiah, the savior of Israel and the world
- Hebrews 2:3-4 — how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard, while **God also bore witness** by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.
- But those demonstrations of power — God giving witness — didn't end when Jesus went to the cross: they intensified — couldn't be ignored



Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.

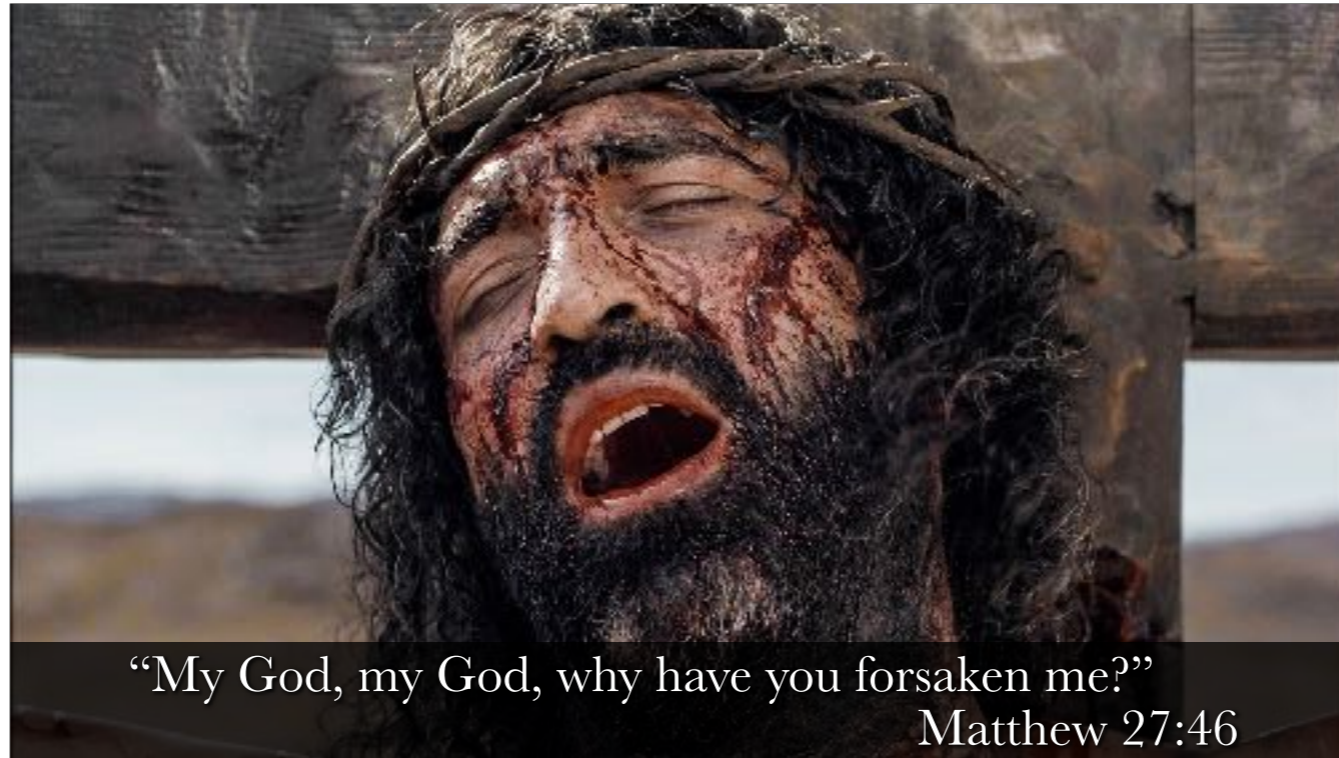
Acts 2:22-23

- Since the Jews demand signs (1 Corinthians 1:22) this is important
 - Do we think that Jehovah would not provide witness even as Jesus is accomplishing our salvation?
- God powerfully bore witness to what was happening on the cross
 - this was Jehovah's definite plan and foreknowledge of God
 - And Jehovah needed it to be clear what was happening that day

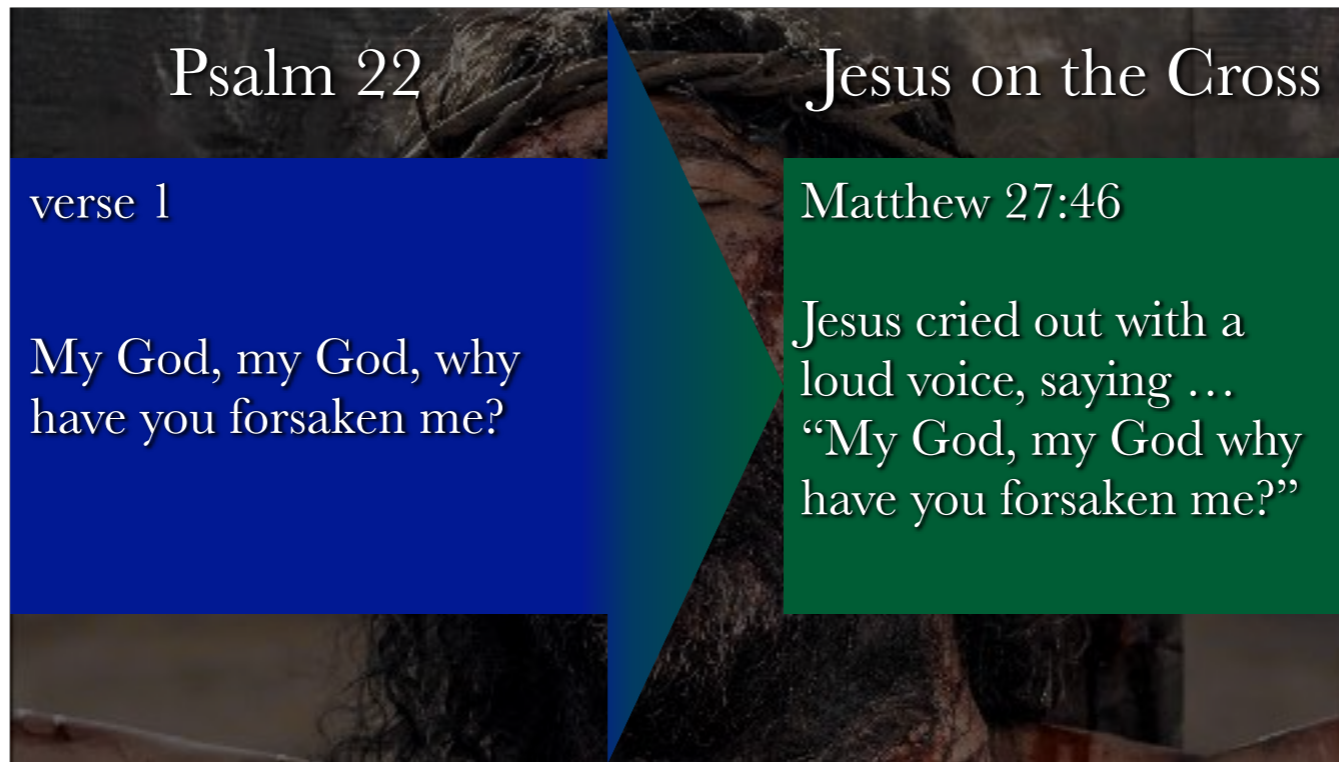


“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”
Matthew 27:46

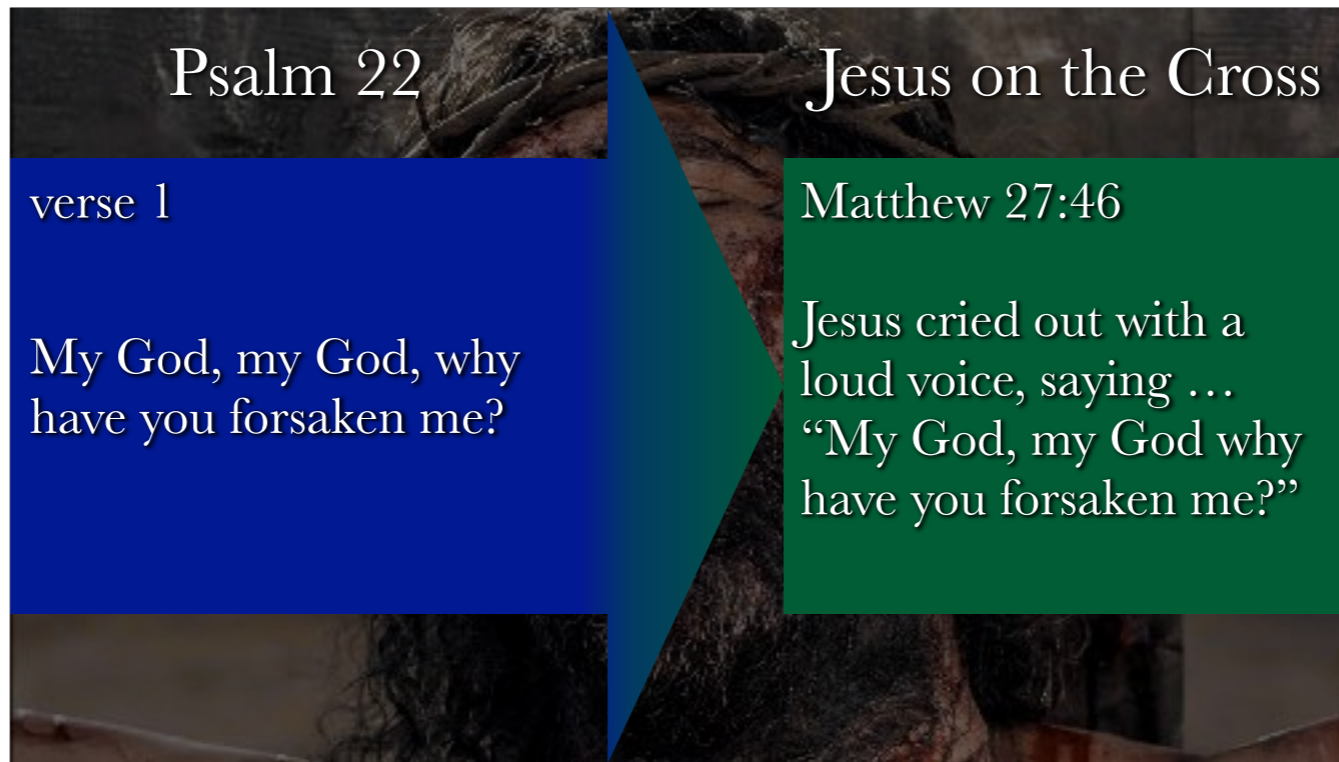
- Matthew 27:46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”
- So many times the question has been asked about why Jesus said this while dying on the cross.
- As noted last week, some responded to this with mocking and scorn using it as a reason to dismiss him and reject him as the messiah



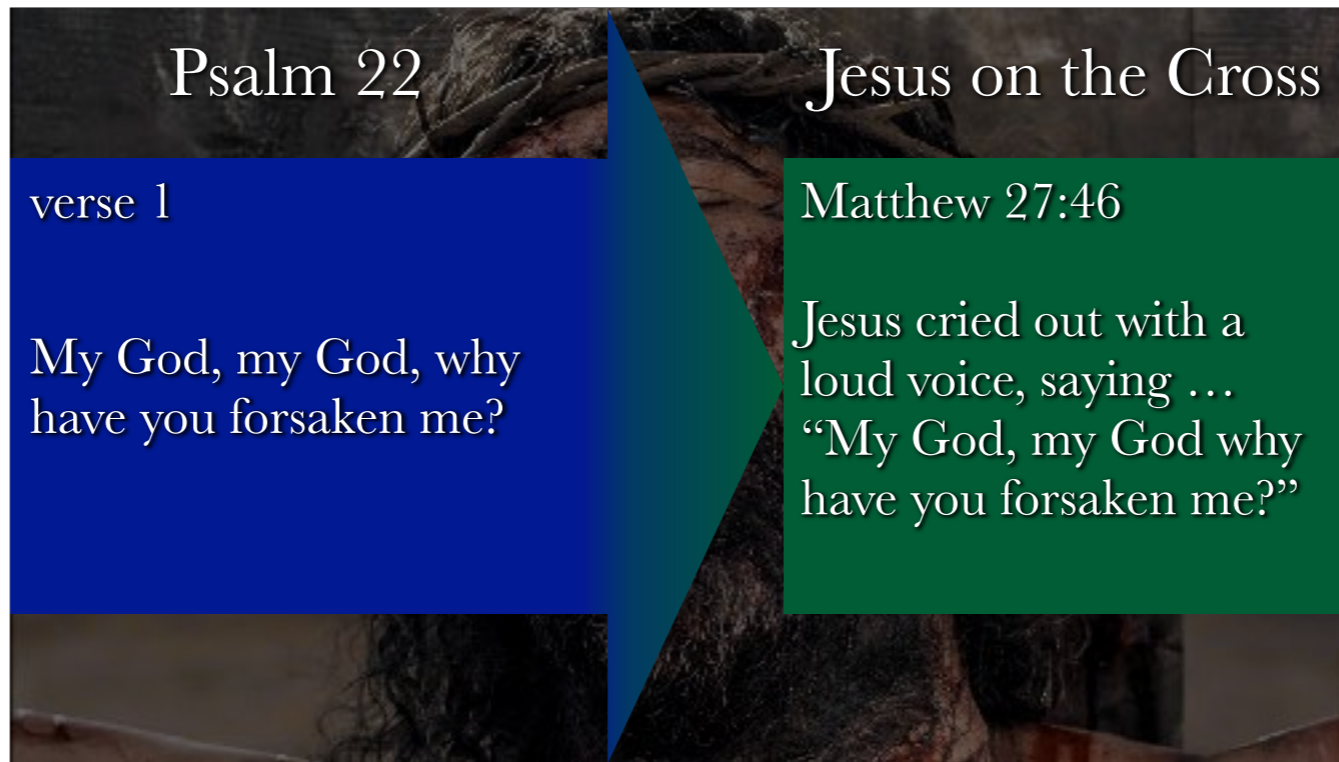
- But even in this moment, Jesus is pointing all the Jews to a prophecy of these events on this day
 - This is the opening line of Psalm 22
- Psalm 22 provides astonishing details of the suffering of Jesus on the cross.
 - It deserves to be read as a whole, gain the whole picture, and I encourage you to do that later today (or now if you're bored)
 - Here are a few



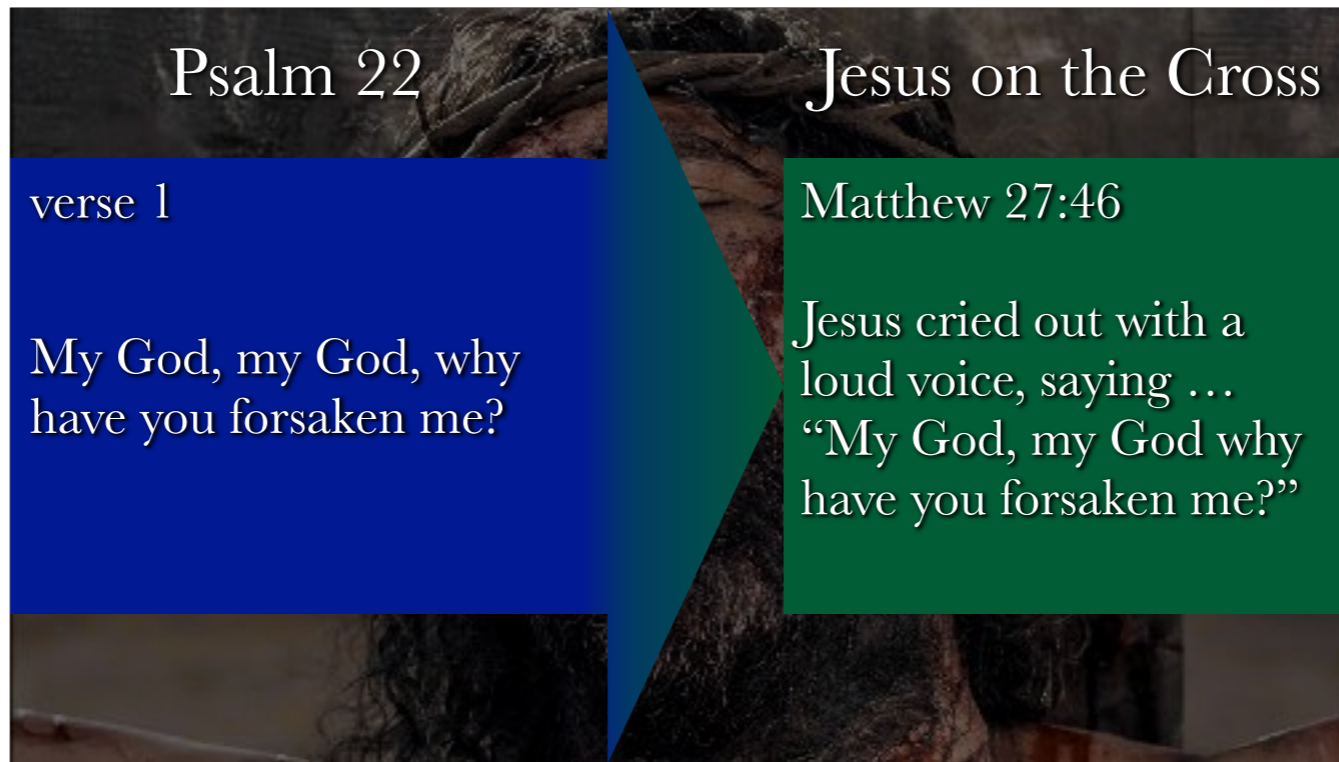
- Psalms 22:1 (ESV) 1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
 - Matthew 27:46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”
- Many believe that this passage expresses the anguish of Jesus as he dies and feels abandoned by Jehovah, his God and his father



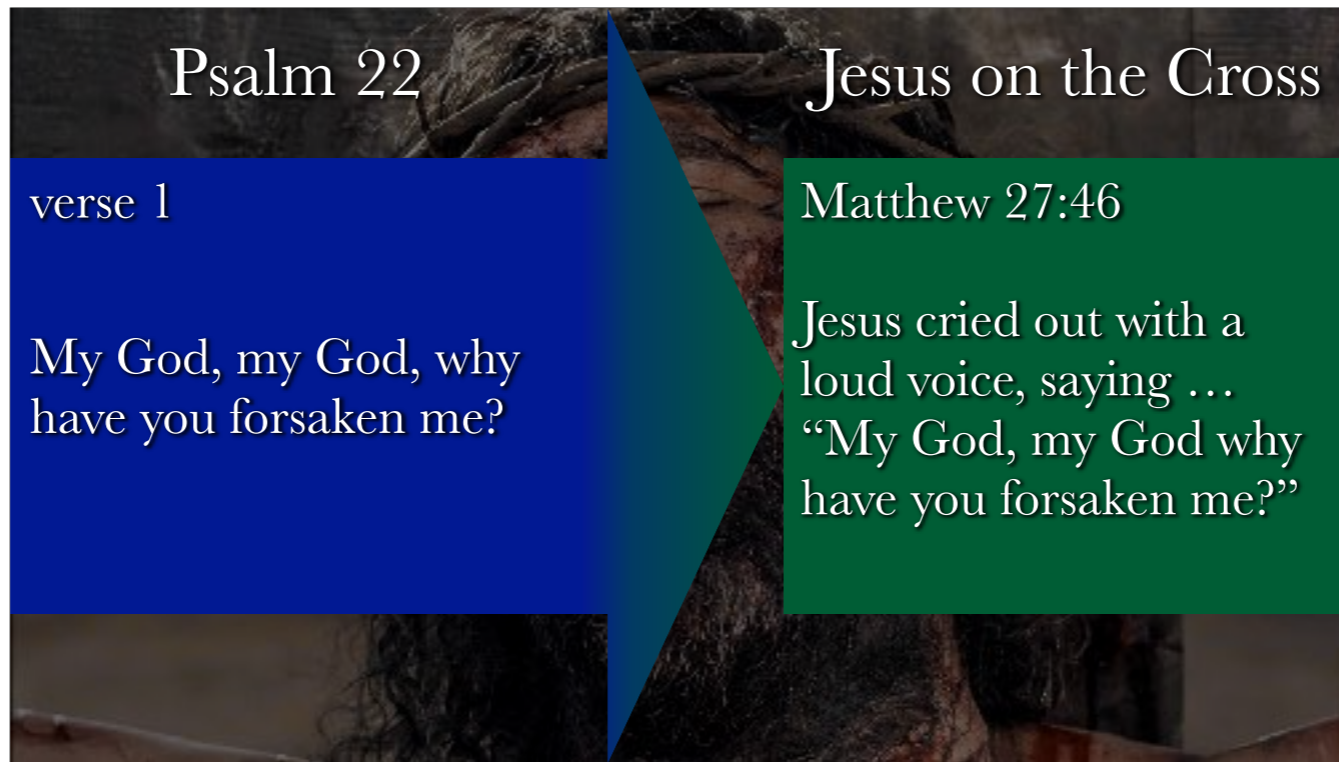
- But I think this cry served a purpose.
 - 1) Because why would God abandon his son at this crucial moment when he is giving himself in full obedience to do exactly what they had planned?



- At this time, I perceive the father to be full pleased with his son ...
 - At baptism, “fitting to fulfill all righteousness”
 - Matthew 3:17 and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”
 - At transfiguration
 - Matthew 17:5 (ESV) 5 He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.”



- As Jesus prepares for the cross
 - John 12:28 (ESV) 28 Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.”
- There would be no more sorrowful and touching a moment for the father than when his son gave himself in love to save all.
 - I believe that the Father is please with his son.



- 2) This cry should have turned the attention of the people surrounding the cross to understand more deeply exactly what was happening.
 - It should have turned their minds to this Psalm and helped them see
 - But sometimes even we forget to consider this Psalm carefully

Psalm 22

verse 4-5

In you our fathers trusted;
they trusted, and you
delivered them. To you
they cried and were
rescued; in you they trusted
and were not put to shame.

Jesus on the Cross

Matthew 27:43

He trusts in God; let
God deliver him now, if
he desires him. For he
said, 'I am the Son of
God.'"

- Psalms 22:4-5: 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.
- Matthew 27:43 He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, 'I am the Son of God.'"

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God deliver him now, if
he desires him. For he
said, 'I am the Son of
God.'"

- Those who mock say it in derision
 - thinking Jesus was on the cross against his will.
 - thinking that God would not deliver him, after all he was dying as a criminal
 - thinking that this proved Jesus' claim to be the son of God was false
 - thinking that his was a shameful death for Jesus

Psalm 22

verse 4-5

In you our fathers trusted;
they trusted, and you
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they cried and were
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and were not put to shame.

Jesus on the Cross

Matthew 27:43

He trusts in God; let
God deliver him now, if
he desires him. For he
said, 'I am the Son of
God.'"

- David said this as an expression of his faith
 - God delivers his people
 - God is worth believing in
 - Jesus did not die in shame but in glory

Psalm 22

verse 4-5

In you our fathers trusted;
they trusted, and you
delivered them. To you
they cried and were
rescued; in you they trusted
and were not put to shame.

Jesus on the Cross

Matthew 27:43

He trusts in God; let
God deliver him now, if
he desires him. For he
said, 'I am the Son of

continued entrusting himself
to him who judges justly
1 Peter 2:23

- And Jesus demonstrated his complete trust in Jehovah
 - 1 Peter 2:22-23 — He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. 23 When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.

Psalm 22

verse 6

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

Jesus on the Cross

Matthew 27:30-31

And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. And when they had mocked

continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly
1 Peter 2:23

- Psalms 22:6 But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people.
 - Matthew 27:30-31: And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. 31 And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.
- 1 Peter 2:23 — continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.

Psalm 22

verse 7

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

Jesus on the Cross

Matthew 27:39

And those who passed
by derided him, wagging
their heads

continued entrusting himself
to him who judges justly
1 Peter 2:23

- Psalms 22:7 All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;
 - Matthew 27:39 And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads
- 1 Peter 2:23 — continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.

Psalm 22

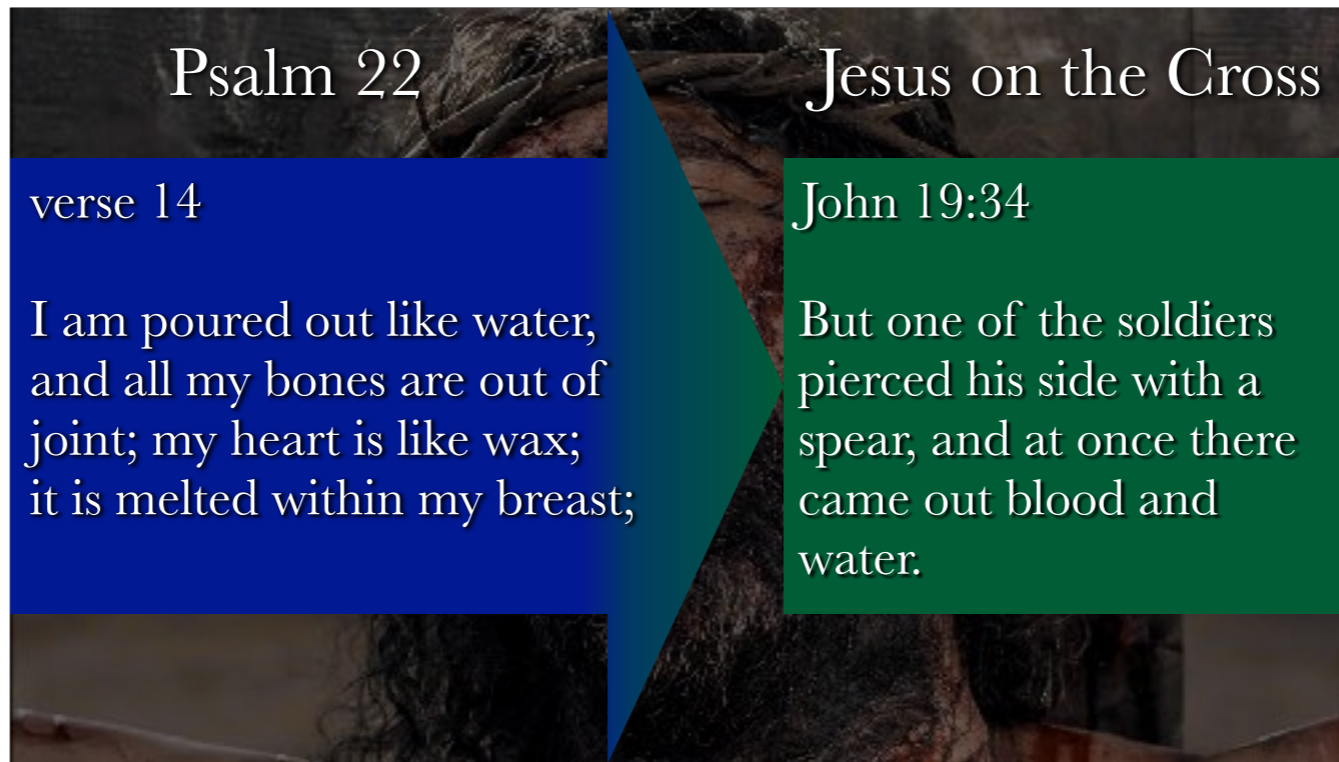
verse 8

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

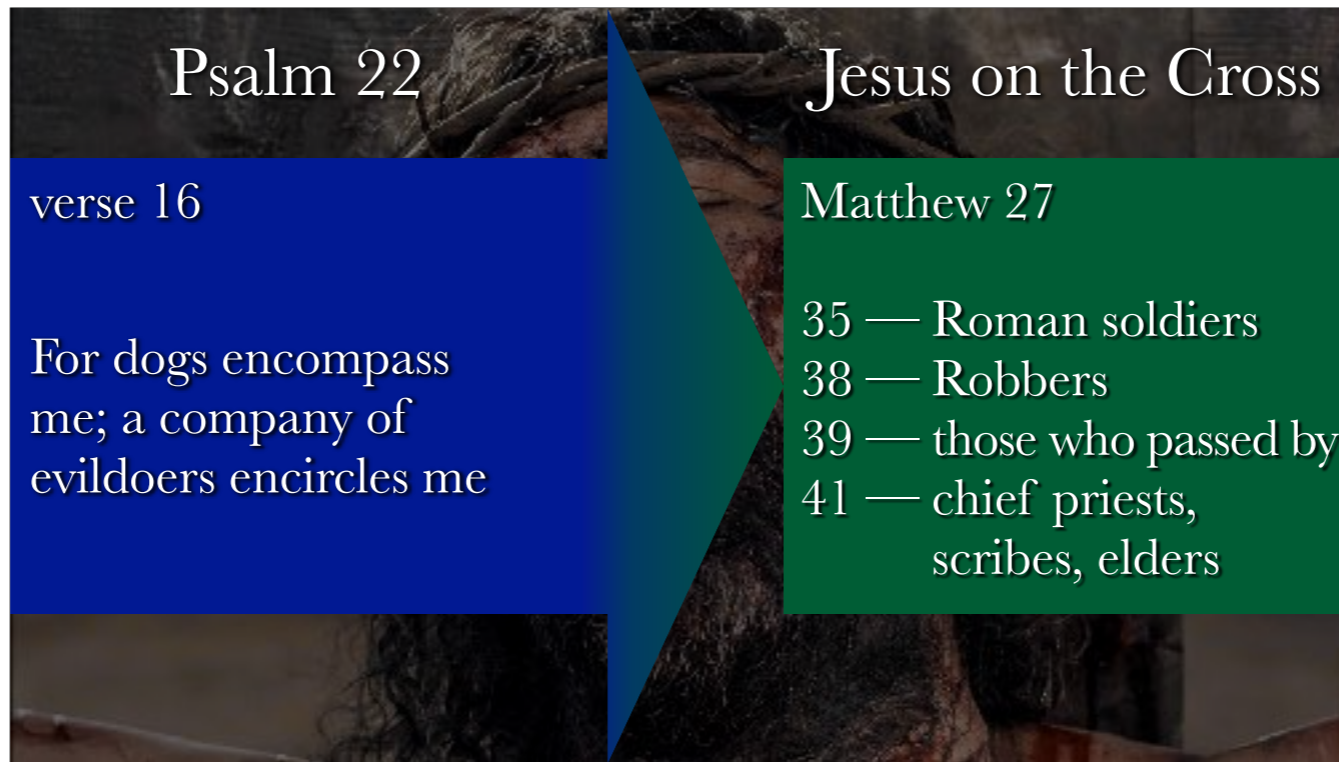
Jesus on the Cross

Luke 23:35
And the people stood by,
watching, but the rulers
scoffed at him, saying,
“He saved others; let him
save himself, if he is the
continued entrusting himself
to him who judges justly
1 Peter 2:23

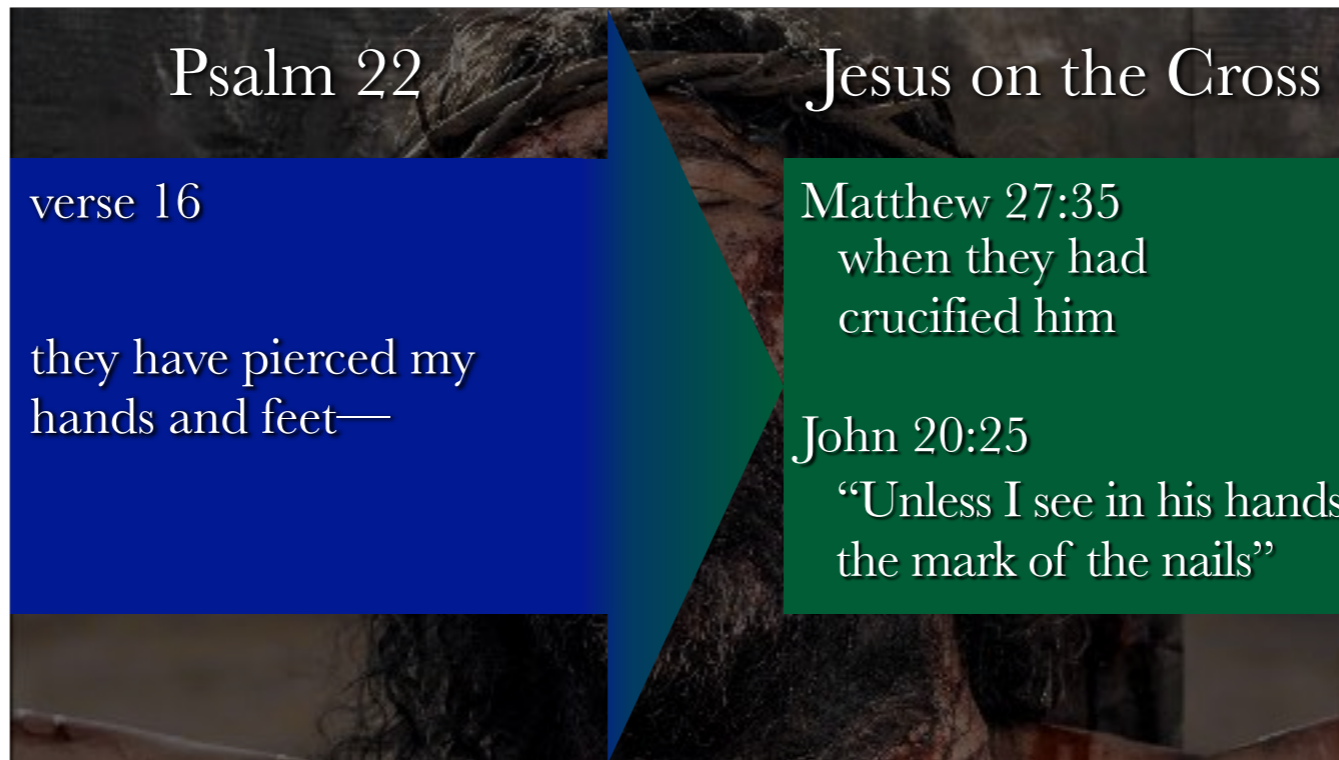
- Psalms 22:8 “He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!”
 - Luke 23:35 And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!”
- 1 Peter 2:23 — continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.



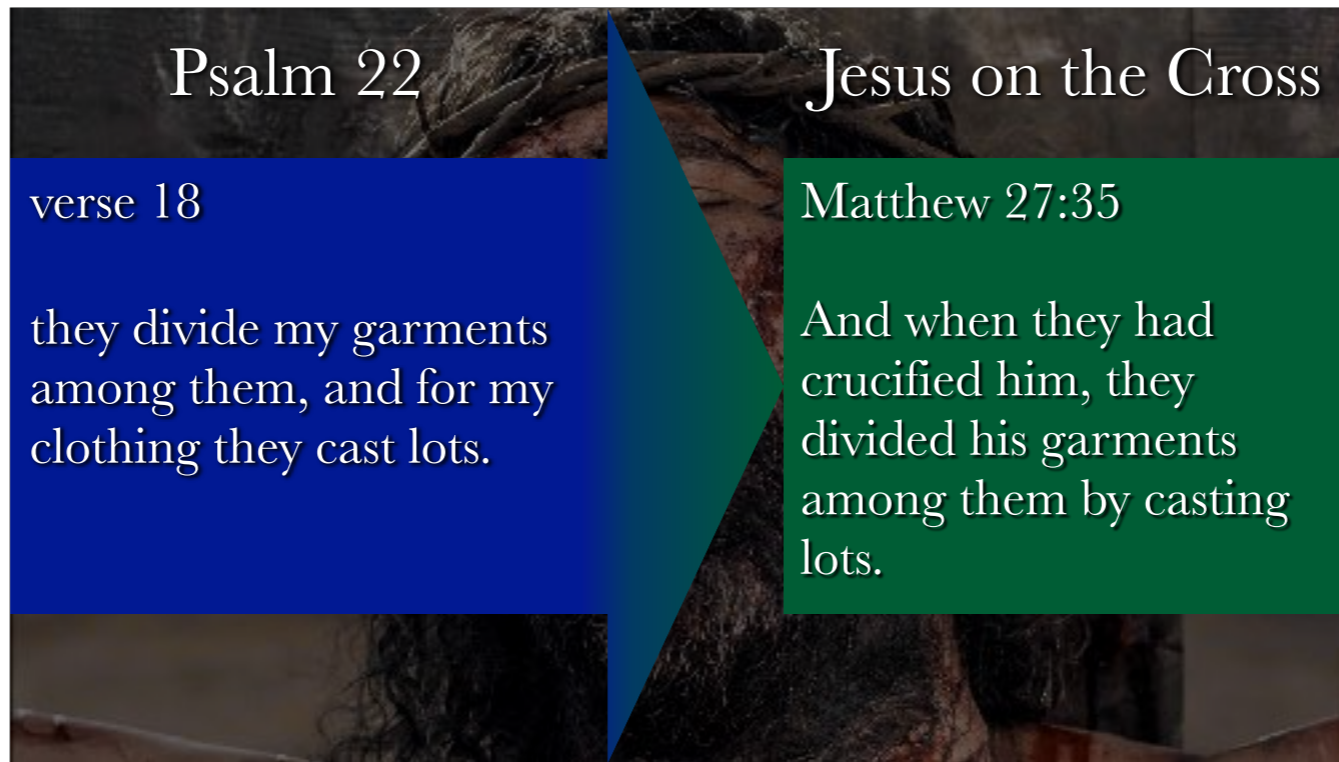
- Psalms 22:14 I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast;
 - John 19:34 But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water.
- Isaiah 53:5 But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.



- Psalms 22:16 For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me
 - Mt. 27:35: roman soldiers
 - Mt. 27:38: two robbers
 - Mt. 27:39: those who passed by
 - Mt. 27:41: chief priests, scribes, elders



- Psalms 22:16 they have pierced my hands and feet—
 - Matthew 27:35 And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots.
 - John 20:25 So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”



- Psalms 22:18 they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.
 - Matthew 27:35 And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots.
- Specifics
 - Clothing worth keeping, clothing that was desirable
 - Casting lots

Jesus on the Cross

All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before you.
For kingship belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.

Psalms 22:27-28

- Psalms 22:27-28 (ESV)
 - 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.

Jesus on the Cross

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

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

Psalms 22:27-28

- Through prophecy, Jehovah gave the Jews the sign they needed to understand that Jesus is the messiah.
 - This is about SALVATION
- But not just the Jews ... all the earth
 - Even looks forward to us
- Jesus is KING

We implore you
on behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20

Call to Action

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THE EASTER STORY

JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

Matthew 27:38-66, Mark 15:25-47, Luke 23:35-56, John 19:28-42.

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The Power of the Cross Part 1 — A Prophecy

1 Corinthians 1:17; Psalm 22

Synopsis: The Power of the cross is evident in the fulfillment of prophecy. Jehovah provided these utterances to help the people of Israel understand what was happening the day that Jesus died. In this lesson our focus is on Psalm 22 that reminds Israel and us that he is the Messiah, that He is the King, and that he is bringing salvation for all. (Adapted from The Cross by Martyn Lloyd-Jones)

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“Let all that you do be done with love.”