

Psalms Chapter 022 Verses 11-15
To the chief Musician upon Aijeleth Shahar, A Psalm of David

Ps 22:11 ¶ "Be not far from me; for trouble is near; for there is none to help."

We point out here that though this is a psalm of King David, all that is written is not things that David experienced, but rather the words are the prophesy of what will happen with the coming of the Messiah.

"Be not far from me;" David was often in great tribulations but all of his friends never departed from him. However, when the time for Jesus to depart mortality came, he was forsaken of all, even his very own disciples. This began in the garden when he was betrayed by Judas and continued until his resurrection.

"for trouble is near;" Jesus knew He was facing great trouble as his time drew near to be hung upon the cross to finish the work and will of God. We see this in **Lu 22:44 "And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground."**

"for there is none to help." We know that God the Father forsook Jesus on the cross seen in the first verse of this Psalm and in **Mt 27:46 & Mr 15:34 "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"** Upon the cross, when the sins of all of God's chosen was laid upon Jesus, God the Father had to withdraw from the prepared body of Jesus that Jesus could die a mortal death.

There is another reason God the Father forsook Jesus on the cross as seen in **Hab 1:13 "Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity:"** Upon the Cross of Christ, as seen in **2Co 5:21 "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.**

"and canst not look on iniquity:" God could not look upon the prepared body of Jesus because of our sins. We are robed in the righteousness of Christ because our sins were imputed upon Jesus on the cross, and the righteousness of Christ is imputed unto us in the new birth.

12 "Many bulls have compassed me: strong bulls of Bashan have beset me round. 13 They gaped upon me with their mouths, as a ravening and a roaring lion."

The word gaped means **to rend or deliver**. Thus, we understand that the strong bulls of Bashan are the prominent officials who presided over the mock trials of Jesus, and the scribes and Pharisees who brought the false accusation against our Saviour. The word ravening means **to tear to pieces**. We see in this picture, the body of Jesus being beaten and tearing his flesh, and all the other things they did at his time of trials and crucifixion.

13 "They gaped upon me with their mouths, as a ravening and a roaring lion." Consider Jesus upon the cross and the scriptures seen in **Mr 15:28-32; 28 "And the scripture was fulfilled, which saith, And he was numbered with the transgressors. 29 And they that passed by railed on him, wagging their heads, and saying, Ah, thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, 30 Save thyself, and come down from the cross. 31 Likewise also the chief priests mocking said among themselves with the scribes, He saved others; himself he cannot save. 32 Let Christ the King of Israel descend now from the cross, that we may see and believe. And they that were crucified with him reviled him."** The crucifiers gnashed on him with their teeth.

14 I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels. 15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws; and thou hast brought me into the dust of death."

"I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels." When they came to break the legs of Jesus, He was already dead; thus, they thrust his side with a spear and out came water and blood. When they hung Jesus upon the cross, which He willingly allowed, his body was as if all his bones were out of joint. If all your bones are out of joint, there is no strength for the physical body to do anything. Jesus's heart was melted as wax with the love he had for God's people.

What is a potsherd? It is a broken piece of pottery, which we know has no power of itself. Forsaken of God in his prepared mortal body, Jesus had no strength to help even himself. As Jesus suffered the torments of hell, his mouth was so dry that his tongue clave to his jaws. We know this is true because of what we learn from the rich man in **Lu 16:24 "And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he**

may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame." This is why before he gave up his spirit, Jesus said "***I thirst.***" He was suffering the torments of hell on our behalf.

"thou hast brought me into the dust of death." Where did man originate from? The dust of the earth. That man Adam disobeyed God and brought sin into the dust of the earth, the mortal bodies of mankind. Forsaken of God the Father, Jesus experienced the dust of death as our sins were laid upon him.

Consider the scene set before us, in connection with your life as a child of God and your gift of salvation in time. Do you see that you are surrounded by a multitude of enemies, who are much stronger than you are in your own strength? Our inherited flesh nature is our greatest enemy. In our own strength, we understand that we do not have the strength to overcome, and that we are "***poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels.***" Wherefore, we can, with David, say: Lord Jesus, "***be not far from me.***" Our mortal bodies are our "***dust of death.***" Thus, we need to feel the nearness of Christ in us to have that peace that passes all understanding, that we do not turn from God in our times of distress. Wherefore, we should cling to the promises of God because we will have victory in Jesus!

"and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws" I believe this prophecies of Jesus upon the cross when he cried out "***I thirst.***" What could that have to do with us today? When we are sinking down under the depressive weight of our own sins, we can cry out as Jesus did, saying I thirst. What are we thirsting for? We are thirsting for a glimpse of the salvation of God gifted to us. We are thirsting for the righteousness of Christ to be a cloak for our sins before God the Father. We are thirsting for a glimpse of Jesus on the cross, seeing the droplets of his blood dripping from his body, as the pearls of the gates of the New Jerusalem. We are thirsting to hear Jesus saying to us "***I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.***" ***Heb 13:5.*** Knowing that passing from this world is in the immediate future for us, we thirst for Jesus to "***come quickly.***" We thirst to hear Jesus say, "***come in thou blessed of the Lord.***" We thirst for our appearing at the marriage supper of the Lamb. We thirst for this body of death to be changed to a sinless, immortal, glorified body like that of our King Jesus. Even, when we are filled with the vitality of the life of a child of God, we hunger and thirst after the righteousness of Christ.

As we think upon the blood, sweat, and tears of Jesus here in time, we can find comfort knowing that these were the building blocks of our spiritual lives. We see each drop of blood as a precious fruit of the Spirit being gifted to us. Standing at the foot of the cross and looking up at our precious Saviour and Lord, should humble our hearts, minds, and wills, to be as completely submissive to our Saviour, as our Saviour was completely submissive to God the Father. What a wonderful gift we have received from God the Father, when we have Christ in us.

Praise and glory to our God, who sent our King Jesus to procure us unto himself. Praise him for the promise that our King Jesus will return to take us to that place he has prepared for us, seen in ***Joh 14:1-3; 1 ¶ "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.***" Hallelujah! Amen!