

Psalm 22

A Story of Turmoil, Terror, & Triumph

By

The Right Reverend
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Background:

- A Psalm of David
- A Psalm about Israel
- A Psalm of Jesus

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Outline:

- Turmoil (Vs. 1-10)
- Terror (Vs. 11-21)
- Triumph (Vs. 22-31)

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Turmoil (Vs. 1-10)

- Vs. 1 “My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?”
- Vs. 10 “On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God.”

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Turmoil (Vs. 1-10)

- Why have you forsaken me?
- Why are you so far from saving me?
- Why are you so far from the words of my groaning?
- Why are you not answering me?

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Turmoil (Vs. 1-10)

- Vs. 3 “Yet you are holy”
- “Enthroned on the praises of Israel.”
 - “Inhabits the praises of Israel.”
(KJV)

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Turmoil (Vs. 1-10)

- Vs. 4-5 Trust = Deliverance
 - Why is this not working for the Psalmist?
 - Why is this not working for Jesus?

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Turmoil (Vs. 1-10)

- Vs. 6 “But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people.”

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Turmoil (Vs. 1-10)

- Jesus is not being rejected by God but by “mankind” and by “the people”
 - Vss. 7-8, Matthew 27:39-44, & Luke 23:35-39

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Turmoil (Vs. 1-10)

- Isaiah 41:11-14

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Turmoil (Vs. 1-10)

- Vs. 9-10 “Yet you are He who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts. On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God.”

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Terror (Vs. 11-21)

- Vs. 11, “Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.”

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Terror (Vs. 11-21)

- Vs. 19, “But you, O Lord, do not be far off! O you my help, come quickly to my aid!”

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Terror (Vs. 11-21)

- Vs. 12-13; 16-18, The humans who scorned and despised him are now describe as animals surrounding him.

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“By means of animal imagery, the poet paints a surrealistic picture of the vacancy left by God’s retreat. It portrays people’s inhuman cruelty.”

–John Goldingay

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Terror (vs. 11-21)

- Romans 1:18-32: “God gave them up”
 - Vs. 24 “in the lusts of their hearts.”
 - Vs. 26 “to dishonorable passions.”
 - Vs. 28 “to a debased mind.”

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Terror (vs. 11-21)

- Case Study: Lindy West

- “I set up #ShoutYourAbortion because I am not sorry, and I will not whisper.”

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Terror (vs. 11-21)

- Vs 14-18, “They seem like a photograph of Jesus hanging on the cross.” -James W. Sire

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Terror (Vs. 11-21)

- Citations of Psalm 22 in Christ's passion
 - Casting lots for his garments (v. 18; Mark 15:24; John 19:23-24)

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- Parching thirst (v. 15; John 19:28-29)
- Piercing his hands and feet (v. 16; John 20:27)
- Mocking by his enemies (v. 8, & 17; Matt. 27:43; Luke 23:35)

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Terror (Vs. 11-21)

- Vs. 15 “You lay me in the dust of death.”
 - “You have laid me in the dust and left me for dead.” (NLT)

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Terror (Vs. 11-21)

- God alone has the power to give and take life.
 - Job 1:20-21
 - Acts 2:22-23

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Triumph (Vs. 22-31)

- Vs. 22 is quoted by the resurrected Jesus in Hebrews 2:12
- Hebrews 2:8-15

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Triumph (Vs. 22-31)

- The turmoil and the terror were all a part of God's plan, which ends in triumph
- Mark 8:31, 9:31, and 10:33-34

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“Just like each of Jesus’s predictions of His Passion ends with a prediction of the Resurrection. This Psalm of the Passion appropriately finishes with the voice of victory and the growth of the church.”

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Triumph (Vs. 22-31)

- Vs. 31 “He has done it.”
- This phrasing is only found three other places in scripture:
 - Gen. 2:1-2, Jn. 19:30, & Rev. 21:6

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