

## Meditation on Psalm 22

by Timothy Keller

*The speaker's hands and feet are pierced (v. 16), his bony frame exposed (v. 17) as he experiences fatal dehydration (v. 15). This is not describing illness or persecution but rather an **execution**. Nothing like this ever happened to David, and the usual cries for justice are absent. It's as if this were a punishment that, though not deserved, must be submitted to. Jesus understood this psalm to be about his death. Here, then, we have something remarkable—a look into the horror and agony of his heart, described by Jesus Himself. Reading the Psalm is like standing on holy ground.*

*“O wondrous love! to bleed and die,  
to bear the cross and shame;  
That guilty sinners, such as I,  
might plead Thy gracious name.”*

*John Newton, “Approach, My Soul, the Mercy Seat.”*



the *Life* of  
CHRIST

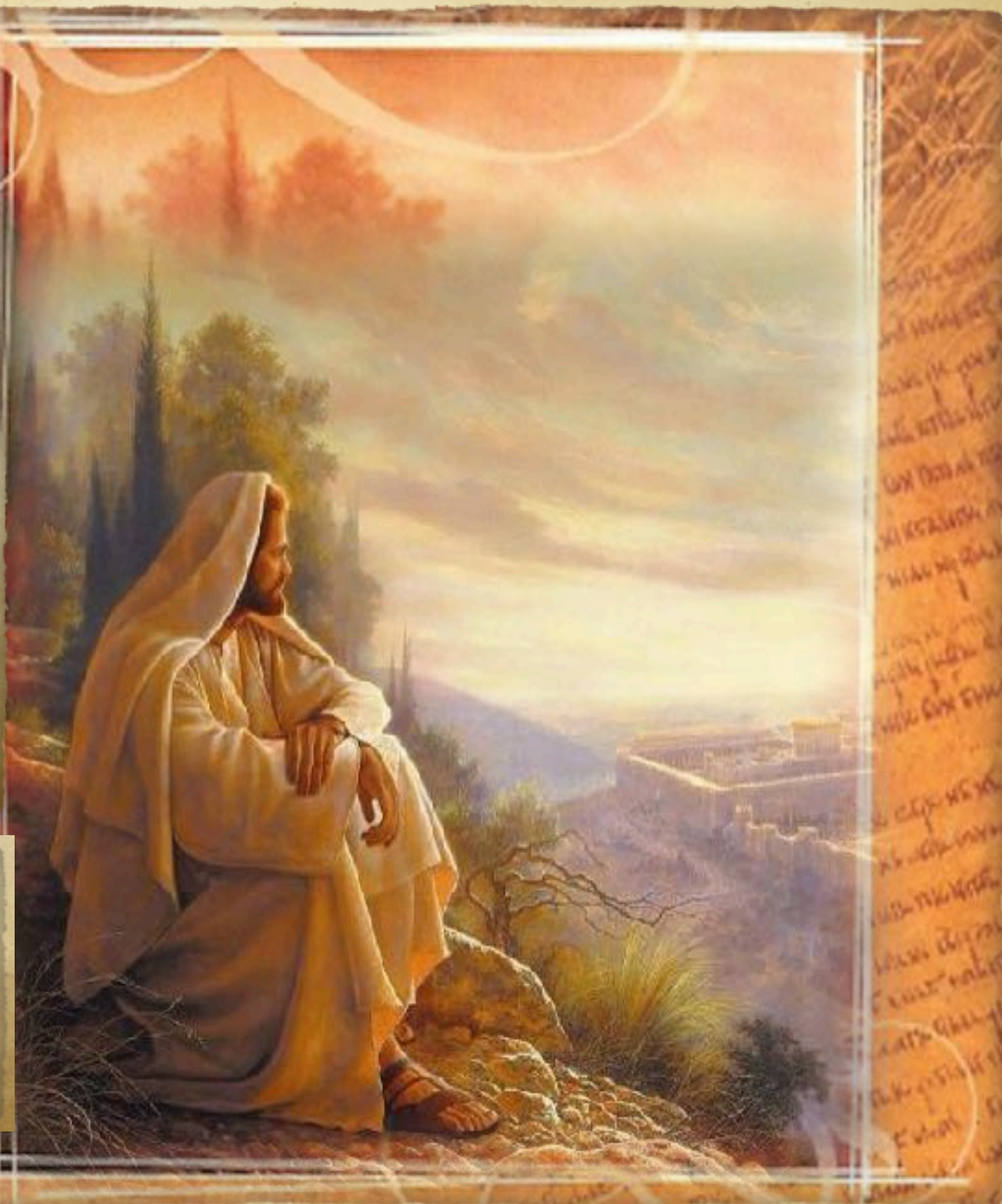
*Messianic  
Rejection Pt 3  
The Cross*

**Matt 27:32-56**

**Mark 15:21-41**

**Luke 23:26-49**

**John 19:16-30**





# Passion Week: Nisan 10-17, 33 AD

Mar 27	Mar 28	Mar 29	Mar 30	Mar 31	Apr 1	Apr 2	Apr 3	Apr 4	Apr 5	
<sup>1</sup>	Nisan 8	Nisan 9	Nisan 10	Nisan 11	Nisan 12	Nisan 13	Nisan 14	Nisan 15	Nisan 16	Nisan 17
<sup>2</sup>	Nisan 8	Nisan 9	Nisan 10	Nisan 11	Nisan 12	Nisan 13	Nisan 14	Nisan 15	Nisan 16	Nisan 17
Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	
Jesus arrives in Bethany near sundown.  The rest of the caravan goes on to Jerusalem.  They announce to the city “Jesus of Nazareth is here!” [Keep in mind Jesus did not attend the year before.]	Jesus invited to the house of Simon in Bethany for “end of Sabbath” meal  Mary anoints Jesus for burial  Judas is rebuked—devises a sinister plan.  Mat and Mk record this scene as a “flashback” in order to tie it with the deal Judas makes with the Sanhedrin on Tuesday eve.	Messianic <b>Presentation</b> — “Triumphal Entry” into Jerusalem  Jesus told the Pharisees in Perea “you will not see me until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’” <b>Lk 13:34</b> This is partly fulfilled this day. It will be fully fulfilled when He returns in Glory.  As in Galilee the year before, they want a King w/o a Cross.  Returns to Bethany near sundown	Messianic <b>Power</b> —  Curses a fig tree on the way into the Temple  “Cleanses” the Temple of corruption (for the second time)  Greeks seek Him  Returns to Bethany near sundown	Messianic <b>Controversy</b> —  The fig tree is withered  Hard parables Hard questions Harsh words  Jesus tells the Apostles of His Return... <i>The Olivet Discourse</i> Late in the day.  Judas makes his deal with the Sanhedrin to betray Jesus sometime during the night  Returns to Bethany near sundown	Messianic <b>Silence</b> —  No activity recorded in the Gospels. Jesus is preparing for His last Passover. Judas and the Sanhedrin are preparing for His arrest.  Remains in Bethany	Messianic <b>Preparation</b> —  Peter and John sent to prepare the Passover  They gather after sunset. Jesus washed the feet, Judas leaves.  Lord’s Passover Remembrance is instituted  Judas has betrayed Jesus. Brings guard to arrest Him  Jesus goes to Gethsemane Suffers Agony	Messianic <b>Rejection</b> —  Jesus arrested very early Friday. <b>The Trials</b> 1. <i>Annas</i> 2. <i>Sanhedrin</i> 3. “Dawn” Trial 4. <i>Pilate</i> 5. <i>Herod</i> 6. <i>Pilate</i>  Jesus scourged. Crowds call for crucifixion. Jesus mocked. Judas hangs himself.  Jesus bears His cross. He dies at 3pm while lambs are being killed His side is pierced. He is buried as leaders prepare for <b>Passover</b>	Messianic <b>Rest</b> —  <b>The 1st Day of “Unleavened Bread”</b>  The Jewish leaders request that Pilate sets a seal and posts a guard on the tomb	Messianic <b>Resurrection</b> —  <b>The Feast of “First Fruits”</b>  The tomb is <i>EMPTY</i> Jesus appears to: 1. <i>Mary Magdalene</i> 2. <i>Women come to prepare His body</i> 3. <i>Road to Emmaus</i> 4. <i>Peter</i> 5. <i>All the Apostles [exc. Thomas]</i> 6. <i>More than 500 disciples</i>	

Midnight

<sup>1</sup>

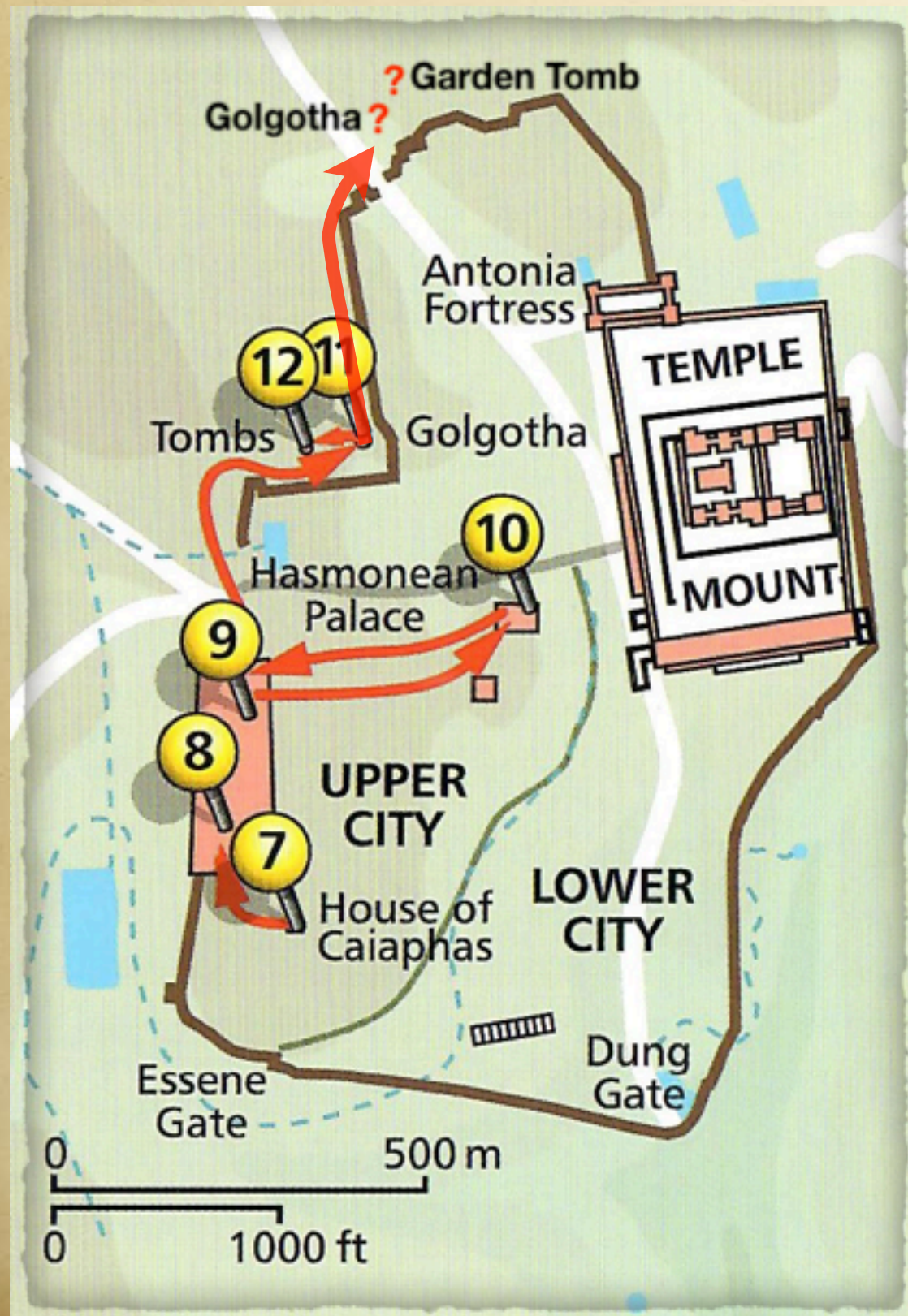
Official Jewish Calendar/Sundown to Sundown

<sup>2</sup>

Galilean Calendar/Sunrise to Sunrise



# The Crucifixion



**Lev 16:21** *“Then Aaron shall lay both of his hands on the head of the scape goat...”*

**Lev 16:22** *“The goat shall bear on itself all their iniquities away to a solitary land, and the man shall release the goat in the wilderness to go to Azazel, to die alone in the wilderness.”*

**Azazel:** “condemned, damned”

*0900*



And as they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and they laid the cross on his back so he could carry it behind Jesus.

And following Jesus was a great multitude of the people, and some women who wailed and lamented over Him.

Jesus turned to them, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. Behold! The days are coming when people will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed!'

People will cry to the mountains, 'Fall on us!' and to the hills, 'Cover us!' IF they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.

And they brought Him to the place called Golgotha —which is called The Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals—one on the right side and one on the left.

Then they offered him wine mingled with myrrh, but he did not drink it.

And Jesus said, "*Father, forgive them, because they do not know what they are doing.*"

The soldiers took his garments and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They took his tunic, but the tunic did not have any seams. It was woven in one piece.

They said "*Let's not tear it UP! We'll cast lots for it.*" This fulfills Scripture:

***Psa 22:18 they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.***

And the **people** stood by, watching, — but the **rulers** scoffed at him,  
*"He saved others; let him save himself, that is, IF he is the Messiah of  
God, The Chosen One!"*

The **soldiers** mocked Him. They came up and gave Him vinegar and said,  
*"If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"*

***Ps 22:8 "He trusts in the LORD!  
Let Him deliver Him; let Him rescue Him..."***

There was an inscription tacked to the cross above Him,  
*"This is the King of the Jews."*

It was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek.

Jesus was crucified near the city walls.

Many of the Jews read this title. They were insulted by it.

The chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, *"Do not write, 'The King of the  
Jews,' but, 'This man **said**, I am King of the Jews.'"*

Pilate said, *"What I have written, I have written."*



One of the criminals railed at him, saying, *“Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself! And save **us!**”*

The other criminal rebuked him,

*“Don't you fear God? You are under the same sentence— You are also condemned!*

*And we are both getting what we deserve, but this man has done nothing wrong.”* And then he said,

*“Jesus! Remember me when you come into your kingdom.”*

And Jesus said to him,

*“I promise you, today you will **BE with Me in Paradise.**”*

Standing near the cross was Mary, his mother, and Mary's sister, Salome, (the mother of John and James), and Mary, the wife of Clopas, (the mother of James and Joseph). And there was Mary Magdalene.

When Jesus saw his mother, John was standing next to her.

Jesus said to his mother, *“**Behold your son!**”*

And He said to John, *“**Behold your mother!**”*

And from then on, John took care of Mary.

John took her into his own home.

***1200-1500***



At 12:00 Noon darkness covered the whole land until 3:00 PM.

At about 3:00 PM Jesus cried out

*"Eli, Eli, — lama sabachtha — NI?"*

***Ps 2:1 "My God, my God, WHY have YOU Forsaken ME?"***

People looking on said, *"He is calling Elijah."* Others said,

*"Let's watch and see if Elijah will come! — to save Him!"*

Jesus knew that everything was finished.

He said, *"I thirst."*

Jesus said this to fulfill the Scriptures:

***Ps 42:2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.***

Someone put a sponge full of the vinegar on a hyssop reed and held it up to his mouth.

***Ps 69:21 ... for my thirst they gave me sour wine to drink.***

Jesus took the vinegar.

Then He said, *"It is finished!"*

Then He cried out — *"Father! Into Your hands I commit My spirit!"*

He said this with His last breath.

***1500***



Behold! Here is what happened next!

The curtain of the temple was torn in two,  
from the top all the way to the bottom!

Then the earth shook! An earthquake!

The rocks were split open! The tombs opened up!

Saints who had fallen asleep were raised back to life!

When the centurion who was in charge of guarding Jesus, and the soldiers who were with him, saw the earthquake and everything else that took place—they were filled with awe, and said,

*"Truly — This was the Son of God!"*

The centurion himself praised God!

*"Certainly this man was truly innocent!"*

This all took place on the day of Passover and on the day of Preparation.

The Jews asked Pilate to have the soldiers break the legs of the crucified men so that they would die and their bodies taken away before sunset.

The Jews did not want these bodies to remain hanging on the crosses on the Sabbath.

The soldiers broke the legs of the first criminal, then the second one.

When they came to Jesus, they saw that he was already dead.

They did not break His legs.

One of the soldiers did pierce his side with a spear.

Blood and water poured out of the wound.

These things fulfilled Scripture:

***Ex 12:46 The lamb shall be eaten in one house...  
you shall not break any of its bones.***

***Ps 34:20 He keeps all his bones. Not one of them is broken.***

And again another Scripture says,

*“They will look on Him Whom they have pierced.”*

***Zec 12:10 “... when they look on Me, on Him Whom they have  
pierced, they shall mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only child...  
as one weeps over a firstborn.***

[And another Scripture not yet fulfilled]

***Rev 1:7 He is coming with the clouds, every eye will see Him,  
even those who pierced Him, and all tribes of the earth  
will wail when they see Him.***

And all the crowds, when they saw what had taken place, they returned home beating their breasts.

And all the acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance. And they saw all these things.



***“Father—forgive them.”***

***“My God—why have You turned Your back on Me?”***

***“I Thirst!”***

**Luke 23:34** *“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”*

**Rom 15:8-11** *For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised (Jews) to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the Promises given to the Patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his Mercy.*

*As it is written, “Therefore I will praise you **among** the Gentiles, and sing to your name.”*

*And again, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, **with** his people.”*

*And again, “Praise the Lord, **all** you Gentiles, and let **all** the peoples extol him.”*

**Mat 27:25** *And all the people answered,  
“His blood be on us and on our children!”*

*“Though they attached a curse to themselves, the One Whom they crucified **had not ratified** their sentence. In the end they will repent. Before the end, there is always the remnant that will be saved.”*

*Sheen, Fulton J “The Life of Christ”*



***Matt 27:46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”***

***Jn 19:28 After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said to fulfill the Scripture, “I thirst.”***

***Ps 42:1-2*** As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God.

*My soul thirsts for God, for the living God...*

***3-4*** My tears have been my food day and night, while they say to me all the day long, “Where is your God?”

*These things I remember, as I pour out my soul...*

***Ps 42:11*** Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

***Jn 19:30 Jesus had received the sour wine, HE said,  
“It is finished!”  
and He bowed His head and gave up His Spirit.***



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*Messianic  
Rest  
The Tomb*

**Matt 27:50—28:1**

**Mk 15:42—16:1**

**Lk 23:50-56**

**Jn 19:31-42**

