

A PRAYER FOR THE SAINTS OF GOD

O for a heart to praise my God, A heart from sin set free,
A heart that always feels Thy blood So freely shed for me.

A heart resigned, submissive, meek, My great Redeemer's
throne, Where only Christ is heard to speak, Where Jesus
reigns alone.

A humble, lowly, contrite, heart, Believing, true and clean,
Which neither life nor death can part From Christ who dwells within.

A heart in every thought renewed And full of love divine, Perfect
and right and pure and good, A copy, Lord, of Thine.
Thy nature, gracious Lord, impart; Come quickly from above;
Write Thy new name upon my heart, Thy new, best name of Love.

"IT IS FINISHED"

John 19:30

The words before us now denote Jesus Christ's seventh and final saying on the cross at Calvary; almost two thousand years ago.

These three words clearly imply that Christ's work of redemption had been accomplished. **Mark 10:45** reveals clearly what Jesus Christ's mission was. "For even the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many."

The only way sinners could be released from the bondage of sin was by the laying down of Christ's life.

Abraham realised this great truth whenever he was tested by God upon Mount Moriah. He informed his only son Isaac, he had been instructed to offer up as a sacrifice to God; "My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering."

From the sixth hour until the ninth hour the iniquity of those whom Christ came to redeem; was laid upon Him. No man's eye saw the sufferings Christ endured during these three hours for there was complete darkness. Man's ear only gave him an indication of the dark valley that Jesus Christ was passing through. His Heavenly Father actually forsook Him during this time as Christ bore His people's sin, and God the Father cannot look upon sin. This final saying on the cross brought about the passing away of the Jewish priesthood as the veil in the temple was rent in twain. We can only enter into God's presence through the atoning blood of Christ. If you have not yet come to Him this way; may you do so today.

GODS PURPOSES REVEALED

2 Timothy 1:9 "Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began."

This verse is for the believer, the saved, the delivered, and protected, from the wrath to come. Called out of our sinful state, unto God, not by works to obtain salvation, but to fulfill God's purpose for us, to his Glory and praise. All this was planned and completed before our Creator God, JEHOVAH ELOMIM, laid a stone for the foundation of the world.

THE REDEEMER REVEALED

2 Timothy 1:10 "But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel."

All the old Testament types are now made clear in the Lord Jesus Christ, now appearing in human form and nature, and the Grace he displays to lost sinners, is evident in him dying on the cross for, those who will trust in him.

92 THE EASTER HISTORY

We have three psalms, each one following in succession, psalm 22 is the Cross of the Shepherd, Psalm 23, the Crook of the Shepherd, Psalm 24, the Crown of the Shepherd, and as you read them you will see the verses that stand out, according to the title. But before we start, there are some verses that prophesy of Christ's coming which take us back beyond the scene of time, before the foundation of the world, to eternity past, so let's look at, **1 Peter 1:20** "Who (Jesus Christ,)" verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, The triune God of eternity planned the coming of the Messiah, Prince of Glory, to come to this earth, to secure the salvation of lost sinful souls, from eternal death, and destruction from the presence of the Lord.

EVEN THE UNGODLY SHALL BOW

Philippians 2:10,11 "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

All the people of all the nations will bow the knee, and open their mouth and declare that he is God, even though they cannot call him Saviour. There is a book written in Heaven, of all the names of the saved on earth, called the Lambs book of life, because it was purposed that he was to be slain by wicked men as the substitute sacrifice, for those written therein, and who will live through eternity, but those whose names are not recorded won't experience the Joy of Heavenly places, and the presence and peace of the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world.

THE CURSE HE ENDURED

Psalm 22:1 "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" We have in this psalm of David an inspired word of the Lord Jesus hanging as a cursed person on the tree as in, **Galatians 3:13** "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written,

Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:" He took our place, suffering punishment, enduring the agony, that we deserved. As we study this psalm, surely you will realize, we stand on holy ground, and therefore we should uncover our feet in the presence of a thrice Holy God, as Moses did at the burning bush near Mount Sinai in Arabia.

Psalm 22:1 "My God, my God," this is a startling, and unexpected cry, from the Saviour's lips, and we have good reason to ask why did Jesus Christ the only begotten Son of the Father cry such a thing.

THE SIN SACRIFICE

When the Old Testament sin sacrifice was offered, the person involved put their hand upon the head of the lamb, indicating that their sin was imputed to it. The animal had to bear the sin punishment alone, no other was involved, which is a type of the once for all, never to be repeated, eternal sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ. His suffering was because of our sin, his agony should have been yours, and will be, if you don't accept his substitutionary sacrifice, for the punishment of sin is death, either on yourself, or on Jesus Christ your redeemer. Let your ears hear his lamentable cry, and your eyes behold, the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world, as he hangs in death's agony in his own blood.

WHY HAST THOU FORSAKEN ME

Those fearful words that were wrung from the lips of the Lord Jesus Christ in his agony must be answered, and though I am sure the Lord Jesus knew the answer, these words were for our sakes.

1. "O thou, before the world began,
Ordained a sacrifice for man,
And by th' eternal Spirit made
An offering in the sinner's stead;
Our everlasting Priest art thou,
Pleading thy death for sinners now."

THE ASSURANCE OF THE TRUTH

Luke 7:19 "And John calling unto him two of his disciples sent them to Jesus, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another?"

When John Baptist sent his disciples with these words to Jesus, it wasn't for his benefit, he had seen the Holy Spirit descend upon his Saviour, and remain, as God had told him. The answer that his disciples brought back was a lasting education to them, that this was indeed, truly the Messiah Prince, that had come, the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world.

THIS DEMANDS AN ANSWER

why hast thou forsaken me?

Let us now look at the word HAST, God has turned away, and Jesus craves the return of his Fathers presence.

The Lord Jesus was aware of the weakness of the flesh, in Peter and the apostles, and the betrayal of Judas, and that the Angels couldn't support him in his sin bearing sacrifice. But, "thou" why hast thou forsaken me?

The answer lies in God the Father alone, he is the Holy God of Heaven, where no sin can enter, and because God is so pure and holy he cannot look upon sin, he had to turn away and withdraw himself from that fearful sight of all the filth of your sin and mine sin imputed to his only begotten Son.

2. Thy offering still continues new

Before the righteous Father's view.

Thyself the Lamb forever slain;

Thy priesthood doth unchanged remain.

Thy years, O God, can never fail,

Nor thy blest work within the veil.

THE DROUGHT OF SUMMER

Psalm 22:15 "My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws:"

Any who have been stranded in the desert areas of Australia in summer without any water, can appreciate the torments of dying of thirst, the swelling of the tongue, the cracked and blistered lips, the craving for just a sip of water to relieve the agonizing pain, and the delusions, as many have.

This is what the Lord Jesus Christ had to suffer for our sakes, his throat and mouth felt like a broken piece of pottery left out in the midday sun, he couldn't even move his tongue because it felt as if it was glued to his jaws.

Psalm 22:16 For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet. Those of us who have seen a pack of dogs attacking another animal without mercy, with gaping mouth barking and tearing with their sharp teeth, even the foxes attacking a helpless little lamb, and this is what the psalmist wants us to see of those who surrounded the lovely Lamb of God

CHRISTS HUMILIATION

Psalm 22:6 "But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people." This is the opinion of the Nation and those who were gathered around the cross, they despised him in word and heart. The scribes, Pharisees, and Sadducees were envious of his popularity, and loathed him intensely.

THE SCENE AT THE CROSS

Isaiah 53:2 "...he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him." With his blood congealed upon every part of his body, his face marred more than any man, is it any wonder that only a few women and John, and his acquaintance are mentioned standing afar off, the spectacle must have been horrible in the eyes of man.

THE MOCKERY AT THE CROSS

Psalm 22:13 "They gaped upon me with their mouths, as a ravening and a roaring lion."

The ones who should have given the most honour were the strongest to rail against him with their mouths wide open in blasphemy, they were no better than a lion at the kill, who roars to bring it's pride to the feast.

THE WEAKNESS OF THE FLESH

Psalm 22:14 "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."

The Scribes, elders, and the people themselves, looked and stared at him on the cross, namely, what they desired and wished for they now saw, and mocked at him, and insulted him, they had no sympathy for him, no compassion for him, but rather rejoiced at his misery:

THE TEARING OF THE TENDONS

Psalm 22:14 "and all my bones are out of joint: V. 22:17 I may tell all my bones: they look and stare upon me."

With all the weight of the body pulling on his joints, the tendons stretch and snap apart, causing great pain as the bones are disjoined.

THEFT IN THE DAY AS IN THE NIGHT

Psalm 22:18 "They see my garments just hung upon, and cast lots upon my vesture." Part the man of God just hung upon the cross, and how callous the soldiers are to divide the spoil before he dies. It was the usual thing for the executioners to claim the clothes of those on the cross, but this still constitutes theft. How easy it is to become a criminal without thinking because everyone does it. This incident shows how clearly David in vision saw the death of Christ, and how surely the Man of Nazareth is he of whom the prophets spoke.

3. Oh, that our faith may never move
But stand unshaken as thy love,
Sure evidence of things unseen;
Now let it pass the years between
And view thee bleeding on the tree:
My Lord, my God, who dies for me.

THE CROSS OF THE SHEPHERD

Isaiah 53:12 "and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors." This was written by Isaiah, many hundreds of years before the crucifixion of the Great Shepherd of the Jews, and the gentiles, so we can see clearly now, how inspired the scriptures are, how accurate to the smallest detail.

Even detailing Christ's crucifixion with the thieves, and his intercession for the one in particular, **Luke 23:43** "And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise." **Lamentation 1:12** "Is it nothing to you, all ye, that pass by? behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow, which is done unto me, wherewith the LORD hath afflicted me in the day of his fierce anger."

Thank you for reading
Please forward to any friends or family who would
like to receive this email
Phone. 86891373
Email. lockarticle@gmail.com

