

[Psalm 22: The Deliverance of Jesus](#)

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By [Dr. David R. Reagan](#)

Did you know that the greatest deliverance in history — the resurrection of Jesus Christ — was foretold almost 1,000 years before it happened?

I was in Jerusalem Easter of 2008 on a video shoot with my old friend Evangelist Don McGee. Don is the founder and director of [Crown & Sickle Ministries](#) based in Amite, Louisiana. Don travels all over the United States preaching about the soon return of Jesus Christ and speaking at Bible prophecy conferences.

Don and I then got together on my television show "Christ in Prophecy" to discuss how Psalm 22 is one of the most prophetic chapters concerning the crucifixion of Jesus Christ ([watch!](#)). We discussed how particularly remarkable it is that the descriptive prophecy concerning Jesus' death was written more than one thousand years before Jesus was born, and more than 700 years before the Romans perfected crucifixion as a method of execution.



Evangelist Don McGee behind the Eastern Gate, Easter 2008

The Deliverance of Jesus

Dr. Reagan: In [Psalm 22:19-21](#), the psalmist records a final prayer uttered by the Messiah. It is a plea for deliverance from Satan. In verse 19 he writes, *"But You, O Lord, be not far off; O You, my help, hasten to my assistance. Deliver my soul from the sword, my only life from the power of the dog. Save me from the lion's mouth; from the horns of the wild oxen. You answer me."*

None of the Gospels record Jesus uttering such a prayer on the Cross, but undoubtedly He must have done so, perhaps silently or in a whisper. In the prayer, the Messiah affirms that God the Father is near to Him, although He seems distant because the Father cannot countenance the sin that the Messiah must bear in our behalf. He ends the prayer by asking for deliverance from Satan (the lion) and his demonic hordes (the wild oxen).

The Victorious Resurrection of Jesus

Don McGee: Now, in Psalm 22, between verses 21 and 22, the greatest miracle in history occurs — the resurrection of the Messiah. The event is not specifically stated, but it is certainly inferred.

Verse 21 ends with a prayer for deliverance from Satan's attack.

Verse 22 begins with a song of celebration, thanking God for answering the prayer. *"I will tell of Your name to my brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will praise You. You who fear the Lord, praise Him; all you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him, and stand in awe of Him, all you descendants of Israel. For He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; nor has He hidden His face from him; but when he cried to Him for help, He heard. From You comes my praise in the great assembly; I shall pay my vows before those who fear Him."*

Dr. Reagan: I praise God for the promise of the resurrection that is clearly inferred in these verses! Incidentally, the most direct prophecy concerning the resurrection in the Old Testament is one that is found in [Psalm 16:10](#) where David wrote, *"You will not abandon my soul to Sheol; nor will You allow Your Holy One to undergo decay."*

Don McGee: In the New Testament, Jesus repeatedly told His disciples that He would be killed and resurrected. It was one of His most frequently stated prophecies. For example, in Matthew 17 He is quoted as saying, *"The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men; and they will kill Him, and He will be raised on the third day."*

Luke records the fulfillment of these resurrection prophecies in the following way in Luke 24, beginning with verse 1, *"But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they [a group of women] came to the tomb bringing spices which they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men suddenly stood near them in dazzling apparel; and as the women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, 'Why do you seek the living One among the dead? He is not here, but He has risen. Remember how He spoke to you while He was still in Galilee, and saying that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.'"*

In the last part of this series on the Passion in Bible Prophecy, we'll marvel at how Jesus' victory on the cross is victory for all who accept His saving work on the cross.