

They Pierced My Hands and Feet

Psalm 22

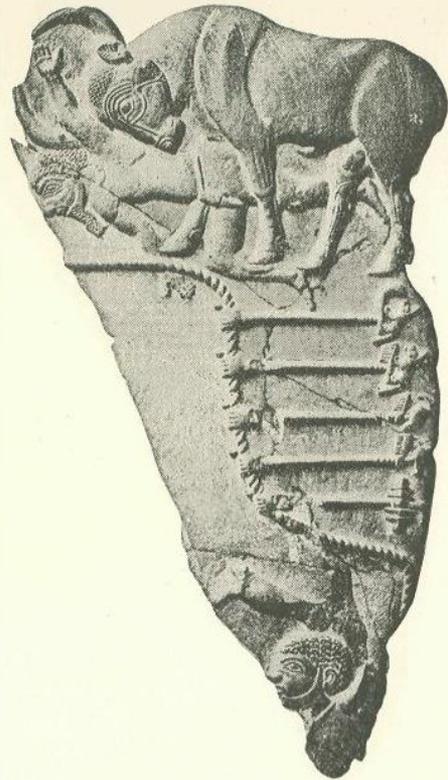
Initial Cry (hope amid hopelessness) 22:1-10





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The Lament: 22:11-21



REVERSE OF A SLATE RELIEF.

With the same symbolical representation. 1st
Dynasty. Reproduced from de Morgan, *Re-
cherches*, vol. 1.

⊗ Many **bulls** have surrounded me; Strong *bulls* of Bashan have encircled me.

⊗ They open wide their mouth at me, As a ravening and a roaring **lion**.

⊗ For **dogs** have surrounded me; A band of evildoers has encompassed me.....

⊗ They pierced My hands and feet

- ❁ Many **bulls** have surrounded me;
Strong *bulls* of Bashan have encircled me.

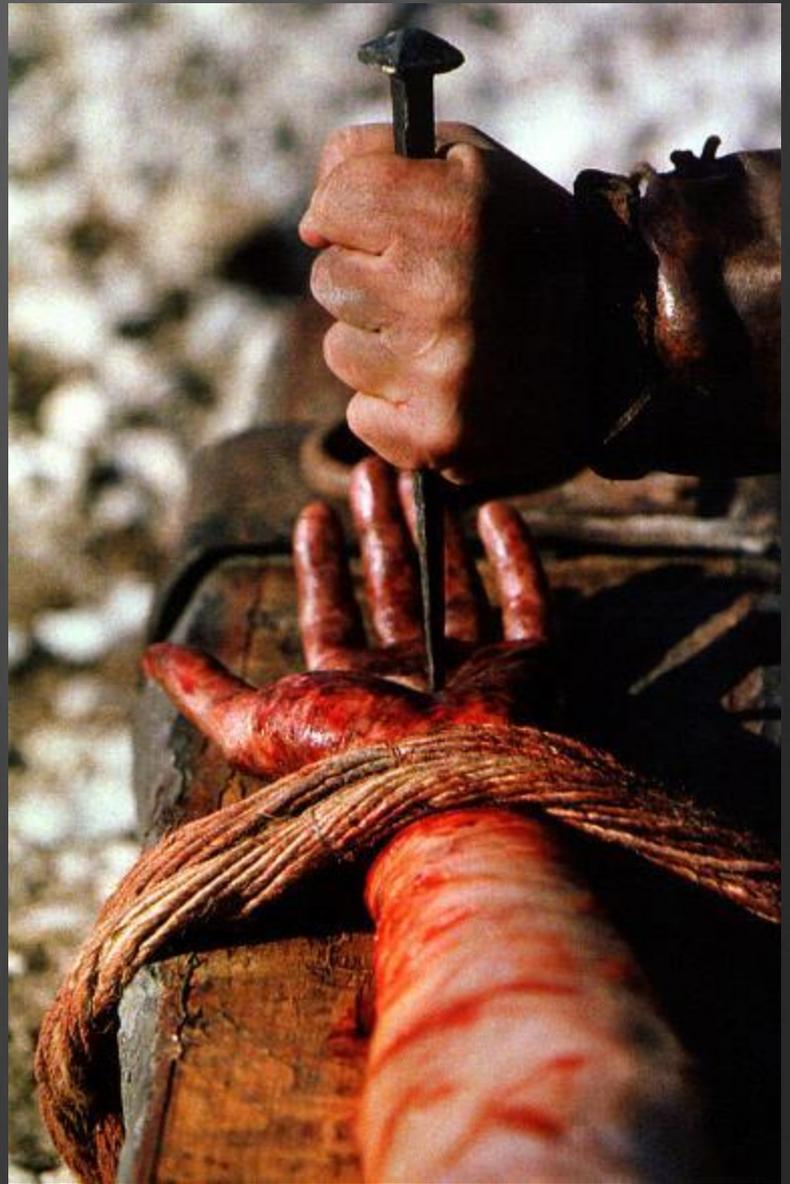
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As a ravening and a roaring **lion**.

- ❁ For **dogs** have surrounded me;
A band of evildoers has encompassed me.....
 - ❁ **They pierced**
My hands
and feet

- ❁ 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.



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Typical Elements: Lament Psalms

- ⊙ **The Lament:**
 - ⊙ “I” – I am hurting
 - ⊙ “They” – They are winning
 - ⊙ “You” – You aren’t doing anything about it

- ❁ **They** open wide their mouth at me,
- ❁ As a ravening and a roaring lion.
- ❁ **I** am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint;
- ❁ My heart is like wax; It is melted within me.
- ❁ My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue cleaves to my jaws;
- ❁ And **You** lay me in the dust of death.

Typical Elements: Lament Psalms

- ⊗ **The Request:**
 - ⊗ “Hear” – Hear my cries for help
 - ⊗ “Deliver” – Rescue me from my circumstances
 - ⊗ “Punish” – Punish the enemies

- ⊗ **“Hear me”** – Implied in vs. 1-2, 5, etc.
- ⊗ **Be not far** from me, for trouble is near; for there is none to help.
- ⊗ **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.
- ⊗ **Punish them?!?!?**

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- ⊗ The Lament:
 - ⊗ “I” – I am hurting
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 - ⊗ “You” – You aren’t doing anything about it
- ⊗ The Request:
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 - ⊗ “Deliver” – Rescue me from my circumstances
 - ⊗ “Punish” – Punish the enemies
- ⊗ Declaration of Trust: *vv. 22ff*

Theology

- ⊗ God does not abandon His people. We cannot let our feelings speak more loudly than His word.
- ⊗ While originally spoken by David concerning his own difficulties, Psalm 22 pointed ahead to the Lord Jesus Christ (cf. Luke 24:44).
- ⊗ In this Psalm, the Psalmist is suffering unjustly (as an innocent man) at the hands of his enemies. The parallels with Christ are vivid!

Theology

- ⊗ The One who suffered and died was confident that He would live again and that through His suffering and resurrection salvation would go to the Nations.
- ⊗ Jesus cried out to the Father for deliverance (Heb 5:7 cf. Matt 26:39). Jesus was not delivered from having to die but was delivered from death via resurrection.
- ⊗ It was God's will for Jesus to die for sinners so that we could be saved from God's wrath (e.g. 2 Cor 5:21).

Application

- ⊗ When God seems silent, we must reflect upon His faithfulness in the past and trust Him for the present.
- ⊗ The Psalms teach us that believers can experience great grief and that we should not lose heart but cast our cares upon the Lord.
- ⊗ We must learn to capture our thoughts and bring them into submission to the word of God

Application

- ⊗ Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures. He rose again the third day, according to the Scriptures!
- ⊗ Those who put their faith in Christ as Savior will find that their hope in Him is a well placed hope.