

Sermon Title: Psalms: From the Heart, Part XXVII 9.6.2026

Themes: Betrayal, yet victory. Live-streaming and sermon notes are at trinitycg.org.

Focus Question: Have you ever been forsaken?

Introduction: Psalm 22 tells of suffering and of the glory that follows. This is a prophetic Psalm written 1,000 years *prior* to Jesus's death. It provides the vivid description of Christ's suffering seen in the Gospels: A. His suffering cry (v. 1). B. The mockers (vs. 7-8, 12-13). C. His torture (v. 16). D. His distorted body (vs. 14, 17). E. His parched tongue (v. 15). F. His divided garments (v. 18).

Sermon Points:

1. Forsaken. Psalm 22:1-11. As writer's note, when we trust God, we don't wait for deliverance to be sure of it, for His holiness is His bond. His grace and love will accomplish it. If your prayers of petition will give way to songs of praise, why wait until the world experiences what you already know to be true, which is the total victory of Jesus Christ over all adversaries? When we cry out in pain His cross is in view, when we sing out in praise His throne is in view. David begins with one of Scripture's most painful questions. Notice that David doesn't stop talking to God when he feels abandoned. He cries to God because he knows God is still there. *Feeling* forsaken is not the same as *being* forsaken. David remembers what God did for previous generations. He remembers God's faithfulness in his own life. Your present circumstances may whisper, "God has forgotten me." But your history with God says, "He has never failed me." Faith isn't pretending the valley isn't deep. Faith keeps trusting God as you walk through it.

2. Faithful. Your suffering is real, but God is still the deliverer. **Psalm 22:12-21.** David describes enemies surrounding him, his bones are disjointed, his strength is drying up, his hands and feet are pierced, and his garments are divided. One Thousand years later, these words would find their fulfillment in Jesus. David doesn't surrender to despair. He cries out in verses 19-21. In Christ, the cry of anguish becomes a declaration of victory: 1. Faith cries out when God seems far away. 2. Faith holds on because God is the deliverer.

3. Victorious. Psalm 22:22-25. Deliverance turns our pain into praise. David was once crying out in anguish but is now proclaiming God's goodness. God brought him through the affliction and gave him a song on the other side. Victory doesn't mean you never suffered. Victory means your suffering did not get the final word. The tears you cried in private can become the praise you proclaim in public.

4. Legacy. Victory turns our testimony into a legacy. **Psalm 22:26-31.** The victory doesn't stop with David. It moves from one man to the congregation, from the congregation to the nations, and from the nations to the next generation. That's victory with a purpose. God doesn't bring you through your deepest valley merely so you can say, "Look what God did for me." He brings you through so you can say, "Let me tell you what God can do for you." Your victory and testimony become somebody else's hope. Ultimately, the message reaches "a people yet unborn." Psalm 22 begins with "My God..." in verse 1 and ends with "he has done it." in verse 31. Jesus' fourth statement on the cross quotes **Psalm 22:1** in **Matthew 27:46**. When God brings you through the valley, don't waste the victory. Praise Him for what He has done and tell the next generation what He can do. The final word is not "forsaken." The final word is "He has done it." The enemy may surround you, but he doesn't have the final word. The suffering is real. But so is God's deliverance. And that's the great message of Psalm 22. Verses 1-21: "Where are You, God?" Verses 22-31: "Look what God has done!" Psalm 22 points toward the triumph of God's suffering Servant. The cross looked like defeat on Friday, but the Father knew it was victory waiting for Sunday. 1. Victory turns our pain into praise. 2. Victory turns our testimony into a legacy. What's your praise? What's your legacy?

Reflection: Lord, grant me the courage and wisdom to see your victory today even before others see it tomorrow.