

Note: Psalms comes from the Hebrew תְּהִלִּים or מִלִּיחָה *Tehillim* meaning "Praises"

Important Notes:

PSALM 22: "HIND OF THE MORNING"

In most English translations, Psalm 22 begins with "To the Chief Musician upon *Aijeleth Shahar*, A Psalm of David."

The Hebrew translation of "Aijeleth Shahar" literally translates to "the Hind of the morning," and some biblical scholars assert that this term was specifically used in reference to the early habits of tribes of deer in search of water and food or rather, to the flight of the hind from the hunters in early dawn. Symbolically, this morning may symbolize the deliverance from persecution and sorrow.

For example, the first rays of the morning sun, which announce its appearance *before* being itself visible, are compared to the fork-like antlers of a stag. Because those antler rays preceded the red of dawn, which again forms the transition to sunrise and deliverance and salvation for the tribe, could Psalm 22 be a prophetic verse pointing to the coming of God's son Jesus Christ, who would bring in a new era and save his tribe?

A note of caution:

Keep in mind that, unlike the pagans who worshipped the physical sun and moon personified by the idols tammuz, horus, and baal - God's Son is radically different. For while, Psalm 88:14 states, "For the LORD God is a **SUN**", Isaiah 60:19 points out that in the end, "the sun will no more be your light by day, nor will the brightness of the moon shine on you, for the Lord will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory."

Now consider the following:

Psalm 22:1 begins with the words, "My God, my God, why has thou forsaken me?" Jesus Christ utters these exact words on the cross in both Mark 15:34 and Matthew 27:46.

In Psalm 22:7 it states, "They hurl insults, shaking their heads," which is repeated in both Mark 15:29 and Matthew 27:39. Again, in Psalm 22:18 it states, "They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment," which is repeated in Mark 15:24, Matthew 27:35, Luke 23:34, and John 19:24.

Below is a general breakdown of Psalm 22. Please read this short summary and then re-read Psalm 22. With this breakdown and the information provided above see what other parallels you can find in this Psalm that point to the death, resurrection, and promise that God's people are given through the death and resurrection of Christ.

A General Breakdown of the Scripture:

A prayer to the father that he may not be deserted, verses 1 to 5, 8, 11; that he is despised above all men, verses 6, 7; that he is His by conception, verses 9, 10; that they who are of the church where the Word is have condemned him to death, verses 12 to 15; and crucified him, verses 16, 17; that they have divided his garments, or dispersed the Truths of his Word, verse 18; a prayer that he may not be deserted, verses 19, 20, 21; that thence the church will be established, verses 22, 23, 25; which he sustained through the power of his Divine principle, verse 24; that thereby there will be a church, which will be gathered from all parts, and will worship him, verses 26 to 31.