

**Series**     **Messiah**  
**Lesson**    **11**

The study of God's Word is for the purpose of growing in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

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- If you have never placed your faith in Christ as your Savior, that is your present need.
- On the Cross, all sins were placed on the humanity of Christ and judged; full payment was made for the sins of mankind.
- Salvation is offered freely to each person by simple faith in the finished work of Christ.
- He did all the work to satisfy the Righteousness of God; ours is merely to receive it by faith.
- That one act of faith, directed toward the Person and Work of Christ, brings eternal life, a permanent relationship with God as His child.

**John 3:16**

**John 1:12**

**Acts 16:31**

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**Jn 3:16**     *For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. NASB*

**Jn 1:12**     *But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name. KJV*

**Acts**

**16:31**     *Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved ... KJV*

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As a believer in Christ, it is imperative that the Word of God be approached with no unconfessed sin in one's life. This permits the filling of the Holy Spirit; thus He can fulfill His teaching ministry in us.

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- The filling of the Spirit is a grace provision that restores a believer to *fellowship* that had been broken because of sin.
- Upon the confession of sin, the believer is now ready to study the Word of God and God the Holy Spirit can make it spiritually discernable.
- Scripture reveals, specifically, this grace provision that places us in a posture to learn the Word of God and then apply it.
- Only in the filling of the Spirit, is God able to work in us to His glory.

***Psalm 32:5***  
***I John 1:9******Ps*****32:5**     *I acknowledged my sin to Thee, And my iniquity I did not hide; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"; And Thou didst forgive the guilt of my sin. Selah.    NASB****I Jn***  
**1:9***If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.  
NASB*

## The Victory of the Cross

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### *Psalm 22:19-21*

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**22:19**    *But Thou, O LORD, be not far off; O Thou my help, hasten to my assistance.*

**20**        *Deliver my soul from the sword, My only life from the power of the dog.*

**21**        *Save me from the lion's mouth; And from the horns of the wild oxen Thou dost answer me.    NASB*

- in the preceding verses, we have seen specific prophecies concerning the crucifixion of Christ
- these prophecies were not grounded on historical facts, for neither the Romans nor the mode of crucifixion on a cross existed at the time of the psalmist
- that any prophecy would be so specific and that each would be fulfilled exactly as the Scripture said, attest to the fact that the Word of God is infallible, without error, and its content is Divine in origin
- man could never exhibit that accuracy in forecasting an event 1000 years before it occurred
- in the agony of His soul, Jesus recognizes the cost of purchasing our redemption
- He is separated from the Father; only the Word of God remains in His soul and that sustains Him in His hour of need

- for those three hours, the wrath of the Father against sin is poured out upon the humanity of Christ
- it is from His knowledge of Scriptures, learned under the teaching of the rabbis, that He continues to pray to God, though there is at that time no answer forthcoming
- He claims the promises of the Word of God, knowing that as long as He is bearing our sins, God cannot and will not answer
- He raises His plea for help, with the knowledge that God must keep His Word, and an answer to His pleas will come when this is over.

*Psalm 22:19 continued*

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**22:19**    *But Thou, O LORD, be not far off, O Thou my help, hasten to my assistance.    NASB*

- the word “*Thou*” is in the emphatic position bringing emphasis to His plea to God
- in **verse 16**, the emphasis was on men piercing his hands and feet, but in **verse 19**, His prayer acknowledges God first and foremost

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- in His time of trouble, Jesus is able to look away from those who are reviling and mocking Him, from those who beat Him and smote Him plucking out His beard; instead He focuses on His ultimate source of Deliverance, His God
- trouble and pain always provide the option to turn away from God or to turn to God

*Psalm 22:19 continued*

**22:19**    ...O my strength (help/succor)    *KJV*

- He continues to speak from His humanity, having set aside the use of His own Deity in the incarnation
- though He is God in the flesh, Paul tells us that Christ did not cling to His Divine privileges when He entered into the human race

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***Philippians 2:6-8***

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**2:6**    *Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,*

**7**       *but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.*

**8**       *And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death — even death on a cross!    NIV*

- though Isaiah gives us the titles of the Lord Jesus Christ – Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace, the humanity of Christ chooses to humble Himself and submit to the Father’s Plan and be sustained by the power of the Holy Spirit
- if there is to be any deliverance, any relief or aid or help, it must come from God the Father; but none is forthcoming
- the strength to endure the Cross will not come from His own Deity, or from His own physical and emotional being; that strength must be given Him as God the Holy Spirit takes the Word of God in His soul and makes it a reality

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**Ephesians 3:16**

**3:16**     ... ..that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man     NASB

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**Psalm 22: 20-21**

**22:20**    Deliver my soul from the sword, My only life from the power of the dog.

**21**     Save me from the lion's mouth; And from the horns of the wild oxen Thou dost answer me.     NASB

...Deliver my soul from the sword

- recall that **Psalm 22** is in two parts: **Verses 1-21** speak of the Suffering Savior on the Cross; **verses 22-31** speak of the glorified Savior reigning as King of Kings and Lord of Lords
- in the verses leading up to the close of this section, we have three prayers for deliverance found in **verses 19, 20 and 21**

- the first prayer is for strength -- strength to finish the saving Work of the Cross (**vs 19**)
- second, there is the prayer for deliverance from the sword (**vs 20**)
- finally, the prayer to be saved from the lion's mouth (**vs 21**)

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**Psalm 22:20** *continued*

**22:20** *...from the sword*

- this can refer to Satan's attempt to have Christ killed before salvation is accomplished
- the Scriptures had stated that no one could take His life; He lays it down of His own accord
- Satan will attack that Scripture through the use of evil men in hopes that Christ will die physically before spiritual death is completed
- on the Cross there are two deaths as prophesied by Isaiah

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**Isaiah 53:9**

**53:9** *His grave was assigned with wicked men, Yet He was with a rich man in His death(s), Because He had done no violence, Nor was there any deceit in His mouth. NASB*

- the world emphasizes his physical death, but that does not purchase salvation
- the Hebrew wording of **Isaiah 53:9** has “*death*” in the plural, clearly indicating that more than one type of death occurred on the Cross
- first and foremost, there had to be spiritual death, when He was made sin for us
- in that death, He screamed out over and over, “*My God My God, why has Thou forsaken Me?*”
- we know that, after three hours of bearing our sins, He cried out --“*it is finished*”
- thus spiritual death, that began when He was made sin for us, was now concluded in that the payment for sin had been fully met
- with spiritual death fulfilled to the satisfaction of God, then Christ is able to commend His Spirit back to the Father

**Luke 23:46**

**23:46**    *And Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into Thy hands I commit My spirit." And having said this, He breathed His last.    NASB*

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- it would be Dr. Luke, who pays so much attention to detail, that gives us the exact timing and spiritual status of Christ on the Cross
- when Christ was made sin for us, He cries out *“My God, My God”*
- the fellowship and relationship that He had with the Father during the incarnation was broken, because He was made sin for us
- but note what Luke tells us --- after Christ has cried out *“it is finished,”* He now is restored to that fellowship and relationship with the Father that He previously possessed
- in dismissing His own spirit, He sends it to the Father who gave the breath of life to Him the night of His physical birth
- secondly, in dismissing His own spirit, He denies Satan the opportunity to have Him killed at the hands of the Roman soldiers by the crushing of the leg bones
- why is this all so important?
- It is found in the words *“my darling”* as translated in the KJV

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**Psalm 22:20**

**22:20**   *Deliver my soul from the sword; my darling from the power of the dog.   KJV*

- the NASB renders “my darling” as “my life” – which serves to define “my darling”
- this phrase is used of an only child

**Genesis 22:2**  
**Judges 11:34**

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**Gen 22:2**   *And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.   KJV*

**Judg 11:34**   *When Jephthah came to his house at Mizpah, behold, his daughter was coming out to meet him with tambourines and with dancing. Now she was his one and only child; besides her he had neither son nor daughter.   NASB*

- to understand this we have to look at a very familiar verse, **John 3:16**
- it tells us of the “only begotten,” better translated the “uniquely born One”

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- in the Plan of God there is only One member of the Godhead that would take upon Himself human flesh and go to the Cross
- in His prayer, Jesus in essence is saying, I am the only One who can redeem mankind because that is the Plan of God
- therefore, God, do not allow Me to be physically destroyed before I have finished the Work of salvation for there is no other Savior available
- the Apostle Peter reiterated that fact in his sermon on the day of Pentecost

#### **Acts 4:12**

**4:12**     *"And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved." NASB*

- even the OT Scriptures identified only One life that could be given as a ransom in providing salvation

#### **Psalm 3:8**

**3:8**     *Salvation belongeth unto the LORD: KJV*

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**Psalm 25:5**  
**Habakkuk 3:18**  
**Zechariah 9:9**

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**Ps**

**25:5**     *Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.    KJV*

**Hab**     *Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.    KJV*  
**3:18**

**Zech**     *Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; He is just and endowed with salvation, Humble, and mounted on a donkey, Even on a colt, the foal of a donkey.    NASB*  
**9:9**

- the plea for deliverance continues from the Cross

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**Psalm 22:21**

**22:21**     *Save me from the lion's mouth; And from the horns of the wild oxen Thou dost answer me.    NASB*

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- this is quite a verse to end the Sufferings of Christ on the Cross
- He prays for deliverance from the direct attacks of Satan
- the Adversary, who has the power of death, seeks to personally impose death on the humanity of Christ, for if the Work of Christ is completed, the power of Satan will be destroyed

#### **Hebrews 2:14 -15**

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**2:14**     *Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil—*

**15**        *and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.    NIV*

- Scripture uses the “lion” to speak of Satan

#### **I Peter 5:8**

#### **II Timothy 4:17**

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**I Pe**     *Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.*  
**5:8**        *NIV*

**II Ti**     *But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed*  
**4:17**        *and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth.    NIV*

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*Psalm 22:21*

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**22:21**   *For thou hast heard me from the horns of the unicorns. KJV*

- this last phrase in the KJV is an unfortunate translation
- the translators did not know how to translate the Hebrew word REEMIYM pronounced “re em”
- for lack of a better name to identify it, they used a fictitious name “*unicorn*”
- the animal in view in this passage is the wild oxen, scientifically called “*BOS primigenius*,” a two horned animal,
- it was known for its ferocity and being untamable -- it is now extinct
- it is found in Scripture in the book of Job
- there, the KJV also uses the word *unicorn*
- the NASB correctly translates the word “*wild oxen*”

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*Job 39:9-12*

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- 39:9**    *"Will the wild ox consent to serve you? Or will he spend the night at your manger?"*
- 10**    *"Can you bind the wild ox in a furrow with ropes? Or will he harrow the valleys after you?"*
- 11**    *"Will you trust him because his strength is great And leave your labor to him?"*
- 12**    *"Will you have faith in him that he will return your grain, And gather it from your threshing floor?    NASB*

- the Syrians call the "reemiyim" a gazelle and the Saudis use this word of a rhinoceros
- "heard me from the horns of the wild oxen" signals a dramatic change
- now the great power of God to deliver is acknowledged; the prayer of Christ from the Cross can finally be answered
- there is no longer an appeal for deliverance but instead the assurance that He will be delivered
- there is a dramatic change from that of making pleas for deliverance to confidently stating that God has answered -- the ordeal of the Cross is over, **NEVER** to be repeated again

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- the once sacrifice for sin of Himself has satisfied the Righteousness of God
- the Justice of God had successfully poured upon Christ every sin of every person so that man could be reconciled to God
- so sure is the humanity of Christ of His deliverance, now that salvation has been accomplished, that the Psalmist suddenly breaks the prophecy as if with a hyphen, and the next verses bring forth thanksgiving and the future glorious kingdom that Christ will establish on earth
- He ended the work of salvation on the Cross with the words *"it is finished"*; **Psalm 22:31** ended with the cry *"He hath done it"*
- that prophetic cry of victory echoes throughout eternity from Calvary -- salvation belongs to Him
- it has been entirely His Work; the glory is now His

### *Philippians 2:9-11*

**2:9**     *Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:*

**10**     *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.   KJV*

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- the benedictions in Scripture speak of His glory

***Ephesians 3:20-21***  
***Jude 25***

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**3:20**     *Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,*

**21**     *Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.*

***Jude***  
**25**     *To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.*