

# Matthew 27:35

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.

## Analysis

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**They crucified him** (σταυρώσαντες, staurōsantes)—Matthew gives no details of the crucifixion itself, the horror too well-known to describe. Nails through wrists and feet, body suspended, suffocation setting in. **Parted his garments, casting lots** (διεμερίσαντο τὰ ἱμάτια...βάλλοντες κλῆρον, diemerisanto...ballontes klēron)—fulfilling Psalm 22:18 precisely.

While Jesus hangs between heaven and earth, bearing cosmic sin, soldiers gamble for his seamless tunic. The contrast is staggering: the Son of God dies; men play dice. Yet even their greed fulfills prophecy, demonstrating divine sovereignty over every detail of redemption's plan.

## Historical Context

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Roman crucifixion victims' clothing became the executioners' perquisite. A Jewish man's garments typically included sandals, head covering, belt, outer garment, and tunic (five pieces). John 19:23-24 specifies the seamless tunic that was not torn but gambled for intact.

## Related Passages

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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. What does the soldiers' indifference—gambling while Jesus dies—reveal about human depravity?
2. How does the fulfillment of Psalm 22:18 demonstrate God's sovereignty over every detail of the crucifixion?

## Interlinear Text

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σταυρώσαντες δὲ αὐτοῦ διεμερίσαντο τὸν ἱμάτια  
they crucified And him They parted which garments  
G4717 G1161 G846 G1266 G3588 G2440

αὐτοῦ ἔβαλον κλῆρον, ἵνα πληρωθῇ τὸν ὥηθὲν  
him casting lots that it might be fulfilled which was spoken  
G846 G906 G2819 G2443 G4137 G3588 G4483

ὑπὸ τὸν προφήτου, διεμερίσαντο τὸν ἱμάτια μου  
by which the prophet They parted which garments my  
G5259 G3588 G4396 G1266 G3588 G2440 G3450

ἐστοῖς, καὶ ἐπὶ τὸν ἱματισμόν μου ἔβαλον κλῆρον,  
among them and upon which vesture my casting lots  
G1438 G2532 G1909 G3588 G2441 G3450 G906 G2819

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 22:18** (Parallel theme): They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.

**Luke 23:34** (Parallel theme): Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

**Acts 4:10** (Cross): Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

**Psalms 22:16** (Parallel theme): For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet.

**John 20:27** (Parallel theme): Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

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