

Psalms 22:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws; and thou hast brought me into the dust of death.

Analysis

Extreme dehydration ('strength is dried up like a potsherd') and the tongue cleaving to the jaws precisely describe crucifixion's effects. Jesus' cry 'I thirst' (John 19:28) fulfilled this verse. The phrase 'thou hast brought me into the dust of death' asserts God's sovereignty even over Christ's death—it was ordained, not merely permitted. Reformed theology sees divine orchestration: the Father sovereignly planned the Son's death to accomplish redemption.

Historical Context

Potsherds (broken pottery fragments) were completely dry and brittle, illustrating total dehydration. Crucifixion victims died from exposure, blood loss, and asphyxiation after hours of agony. Christ endured this to the fullest extent.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does Jesus' thirst on the cross satisfy your spiritual thirst permanently?

2. What does God's sovereignty over Christ's death teach about His control over all circumstances?

Interlinear Text

יָבֵשׁ	כֶּהָ רֶשֶׁן	כֹּחִי	וּלְשׁוֹנִי	מִדְּבַר קִי	מִלְקוֹחֵי יָי
is dried up	like a potsherd	My strength	and my tongue	cleaveth	to my jaws
H3001	H2789	H3581	H3956	H1692	H4455
וְלֶעָפָר	מִן הַמָּוֶת	וַתִּשְׁפֹּתֵנִי:			
me into the dust	of death	and thou hast brought			
H6083	H4194	H8239			

Additional Cross-References

John 19:28 (Parallel theme): After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst.

Psalms 69:3 (Parallel theme): I am weary of my crying: my throat is dried: mine eyes fail while I wait for my God.

Isaiah 53:12 (Parallel theme): Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Psalms 38:10 (Parallel theme): My heart panteth, my strength faileth me: as for the light of mine eyes, it also is gone from me.

Psalms 69:21 (Parallel theme): They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

Psalms 104:29 (Parallel theme): Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled: thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust.

1 Corinthians 15:3 (Parallel theme): For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

