
the book of
MARK

Utterly Alone

Very early in the morning, the chief priests, with the elders, the teachers of the law and the whole Sanhedrin, made their plans… (v. 1)

Wanting to satisfy the crowd…Pilate had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified… (v. 15)

The soldiers put a purple robe on him, then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on him. And they began to call out to him, ‘Hail, king of the Jews!’ Again and again they struck him on the head with a staff and spit on him… (vv. 17-18)

Utterly Alone
Utterly Powerless

So they bound Jesus, led him away,
and handed him over…
(v. 1)

Wanting to satisfy the crowd…
he had Jesus flogged,
and handed him over…
(v. 15)

The soldiers led Jesus away into the palace…

They led him out to crucify him…

They brought him to ‘the place of the skull’

(vv. 16, 20, 22)

They forced Simon
to carry the cross... (v. 21)

Those who passed by hurled insults at him… (v. 29)

Those crucified with him also heaped insults on him… (v. 32)

He came to that which was his own,
but his own did not receive him.

John 1:11

He had one left to send, a son, whom he loved.
He sent him last of all, saying, ‘They will respect my son’.
But the tenants…took him and killed him,
and threw him out of the vineyard

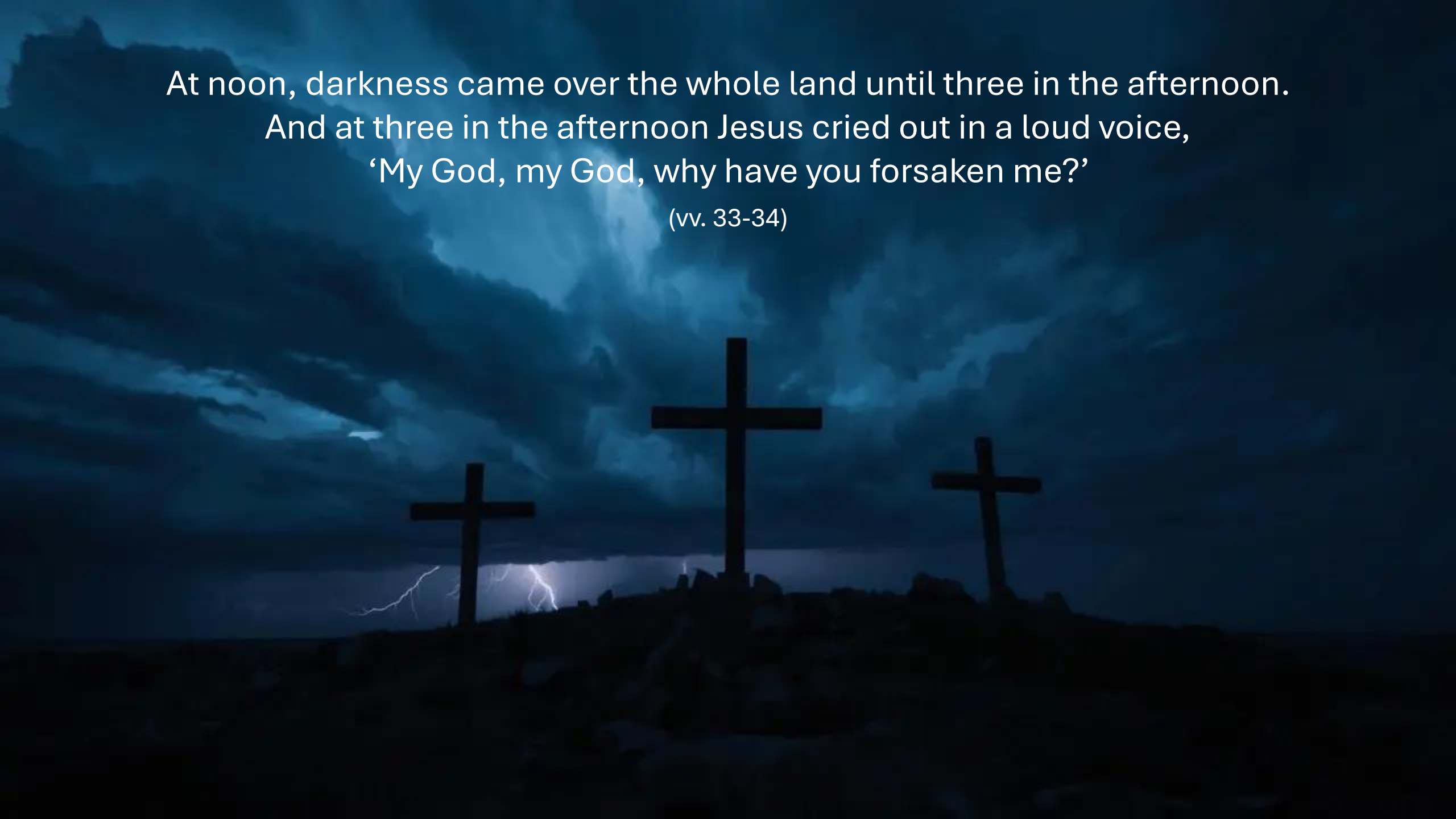
Mark 12:6-8

‘The accusation, condemnation, and punishment
all fall on the very One on whom they ought to fall least of all,
and not at all on those on whom they ought to fall.’

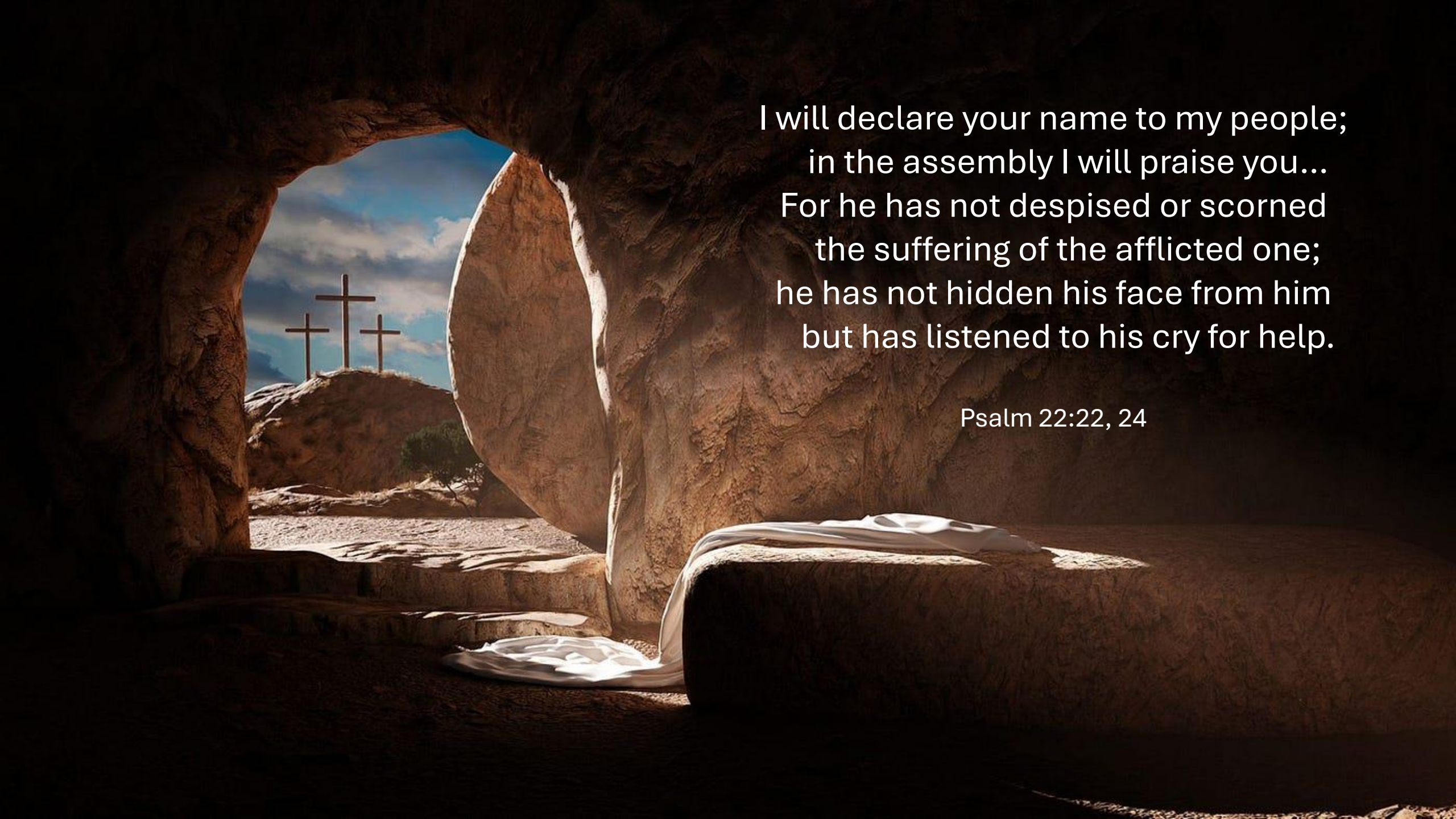
Karl Barth

Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be
That you, my God, should die for me?

Charles Wesley


At noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.
And at three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice,
‘My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?’
(vv. 33-34)


‘He fulfills judgement as man in our place,
by treading the way of sinners to its bitter end in death, in destruction,
in the limitless anguish of separation from God.’
Karl Barth


I will declare your name to my people;
in the assembly I will praise you...
For he has not despised or scorned
the suffering of the afflicted one;
he has not hidden his face from him
but has listened to his cry for help.
Psalm 22:22, 24