*Jesus Can Sympathize With Us*

*5/11/2025 Communion Comments*

*Psalm 22.11-18*

**Be not far from Me,
For trouble *is* near;
For *there is* none to help.**

**12Many bulls have surrounded Me;
Strong *bulls* of Bashan have encircled Me.
13They gape at Me *with* their mouths,
*Like* a raging and roaring lion.**

**14I am poured out like water,
And all My bones are out of joint;
My heart is like wax;
It has melted within Me.
15My strength is dried up like a potsherd,
And My tongue clings to My jaws;
You have brought Me to the dust of death.**

**16For dogs have surrounded Me;
The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me.
Theypierced My hands and My feet;
17I can count all My bones.
They look *and* stare at Me.
18They divide My garments among them,
And for My clothing they cast lots.**

* David wrote these words to describe the anguish and trouble he experienced
* He called upon the Lord to be near him because he knew his condition was hopeless without Him
* However when we read about what Jesus experienced on the cross, it is clear that this psalm is more than just a personal prayer of David
* This was a prophecy of the suffering of Christ on the Cross
* As Jesus experienced the crucifixion, He was surrounded by evildoers, was physically exhausted and dehydrated, and had His hands and feet pierced
* Even the detail that the would divide His garments and cast lots for His clothing would occur as Jesus hung on the cross
* Hundreds of years later before Jesus came to earth, the details of His death were known both to Jesus and to His Father in heaven
* Yet both were willing for this sacrifice to take place
* However, David was just not prophesying
* He was also describing how he felt in a seemingly hopeless situation
* By coming to experience this type of death, Jesus showed that He loves us and that He can sympathize with us
* The death Jesus faced on the cross was worse than anything we might experience in this life, yet He willing endured it for us