

Text: **Psalm 22:1-8**

**THE STRUGGLE BETWEEN FAITH IN GOD AND REAL LIFE**

**A. FAITH**

1. Faith in God

a) But You are holy (Psalm 22:3a)

b) Enthroned

i) In heaven

ii) In the praises of Israel (Psalm 22:3b)

2. Trust in God

a) Our fathers trusted in You (Psalm 22:4a)

b) They trusted and You delivered them (Psalm 22:4b)

3. Praying to God

a) They cried to You, and were delivered (Psalm 22:5a)

b) They trusted in You, and were not ashamed (Psalm 22:5b)

**B. PERSONAL LIFE EXPERIENCE**

1. Low Self-Esteem

a) Imagery of a worm  
But I am a worm, and no man (Psalm 22:6a)

b) Reproach  
A reproach of men (Psalm 22:6b)

c) Despise  
And despised by the people (Psalm 22:6c)

## 2. Terrible traumatic life experiences

- a) Ridicule  
All those who see Me ridicule Me (Psalm 22:7a)
- b) Derision  
They shoot out the lip, they shake their head (Psalm 22:7b)
- c) Taunts  
He trusted in the LORD, let Him rescue Him (Psalm 22:8a)
- d) Mockery  
Let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him (Psalm 22:8b)

## C. SUFFERING IN LIFE

### 1. 8<sup>th</sup> Beatitude

*“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake,  
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 5:10*

### 2. Personal suffering of David

Two known periods of suffering

- a) In the days of King Saul (1 Samuel 18-31)
- b) In the days of Absalom who sought to usurp his throne (2 Samuel 13-18)

### 3. Prophetic suffering of the Lord Jesus Christ

- a) Prophetic (Isaiah 53)
- b) Actual (Matthew 26-27; Mark 14-15; Luke 22-23; John 18-19)

### 4. Our Personal suffering