

## *“He Rules Over the Nations”*

Psalm 22:27-31

Missions exists to proclaim the rule of God and His redemptive work to all the nations of the world.

Psalm 22 is one of the great Messianic Psalms in the Old Testament. It has been entitled, “The Psalm of the Cross.” One translation entitles it, “The suffering servant wins the deliverance of the nations.” (Kidner, Psalms 1-72, 105).

This Psalm has three primary movements: verses 1-21, 22-26, and 27-31. Our primary focus will be on verses 27-31. It is necessary, however, to note the two preceding paragraphs within the Psalm itself.

### I. The pain of the afflicted (vv. 1-21)

Verses 1-21 are immediately recognize by anyone who reads the New Testament as the Psalm quoted by our Lord in Matthew 27:46, “About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, ‘ELI, ELI, LAMA SABACHTHANI?’ that is, ‘MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?’”

### II. The pleasure of the delivered (vv. 22-26)

From Psalm 22:1-21 we are led into verses 22-26. In verses 22-26 the sufferer of verses 1-21 testifies before their brethren in the Temple of God’s faithfulness to deliver.

The Psalm has an ever increasing circle of inclusion. It begins with the individual in verses 1-21, than it extends to the congregation within the Temple in verses 22-26, and finally it explodes in the arena of “all the ends of the earth” in verses 27-31.

### III. The proclamation of His reign (vv. 27-31)

#### A. The scope of His reign (v. 27)

#### B. The character of His reign (vv. 28, 29)

Verse 28 provides the reason for this universal worship of the LORD.

#### 1. The reign of God is unconditional.

God does what He desires to do. There is no gap between God's will and the exercising of power to accomplish what He wills.

2. The rule of God is universal.

There is nothing that falls outside of His rule. All things created bow before Him.

3. The rule of God is unveiling.

Who God is finds expression in how He rules. The rule of God is just, but it is also gracious, loving, merciful, and faithful. The rule of God is not executed by a fallen despot who delights in the misery of his citizens. No, our God's very character as a God of love and grace guarantees that in the exercising of His will we have an unending reservoir of wisdom and mercy.

- C. The communication of His reign (vv. 30, 31)

Verses 30 and 31 give us an Old Testament equivalent to Matthew 28:18-20 and 2 Timothy 2:2, 3:15.

We are to teach each succeeding generation the truth about God. Notice what we are to tell our children; we are to tell our children that "He has done it." Many suggest that we are to translate this, "It is finished." In fact, this is how the Amplified Bible expands on this verse. Friends, we are to tell the next generation and even those who are yet unborn, "It is finished."

Today, let us praise His name and let us commit ourselves to this holy task of telling each succeeding generation that "It is finished" and that God does indeed rule over the nations!