

Christ's Pierced Hands And Feet

“ . . . They pierced My hands and My feet” (Psalm 22:16).

Dr. Andrew Bonar told of a man and woman who wanted to join the church. When he asked of their conversions, they told how their small son, having heard the story of Christ's death on the cross, had asked them if it was their sins that had nailed Jesus to the cross. When they were hesitant to answer him, he clasped his hands and said, “O Lord Jesus, it must have been my sins that nailed Thee to the cross!” Their son's prayer had led to their conversions.

This Psalm, written by David, is thus properly referred to as a Davidic Psalm. Yet when we look at the words of this text, “They pierced My hands and My feet,” we know this is not expressive of the life of David. The Psalm must also be classified as a Messianic Psalm. David penned the words, but behind the words we hear and feel the heart of the Lord Jesus Christ as He hung on the cross. Here we have the commentary of Christ Himself.

This is not the only time we are confronted with the pierced Christ. The word “wounded,” in the phrase “He was wounded for our transgressions” (Isa. 53:5), means “pierced through.” Quoting Zechariah 12:10, John wrote, “They shall look on Him Whom they pierced” (John 19:37). Also, we are told, “Behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced Him” (Rev. 1:7). In our text, however, we have the only statement of Christ's pierced hands and feet.

Christ's pierced hands and feet unveil what the creation thinks of the Creator! Jesus said, “They”—“They pierced My hands and My feet.” The same sinners who laughed the Savior to “scorn” (22:7); the same bullish crowd that “compassed” Him (22:12); the same “assembly of the wicked” that opposed the Redeemer; “They” crucified Him, piercing His hands and feet. “They,” of course, represents the entire human family, all of which participated in Christ's terrible death.

Christ's pierced hands and feet manifest the Creator's feelings about the creation! According to the Scriptures, the Lord Jesus could have called “legions of angels” to His rescue (Matt. 26:53). But because He loved us, and His death was the only hope of our salvation, Jesus “endured the cross” (Heb. 12:2). We “hid . . . our faces from Him,” but He didn't turn away from us. We “despised” Him, but, bless His Name, He didn't despise us (Isa. 53:3).

Christ's pierced hands and feet show us the way to become a new creation! By trusting the One Who was pierced for us, dear friends, and His redemptive death on the cross, we are made new spiritually. “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (2 Cor. 5:17).