

23 לֹא-תִלֵּין נִבְלָתוֹ עַל-הָעֵץ פִּי-קִבּוּר תִּקְבְּרֵנוּ
בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא פִּי-קָלַלְתָּ אֱלֹהִים תְּלוּי וְלֹא
תִטַּמֵּא אֶת-אֲדָמָתָה אֲשֶׁר יְיָ אֱלֹהֶיךָ נָתַן לְךָ נַחֲלָה:
2 אֵלֵי אֵלֵי לָמָּה עֲזַבְתָּנִי רְחוּק מִי שׁוֹעֲבֵתִי
דְּבַרִּי שְׁאַגְתִּי:
3 יְיָ אֲרֵה אַפִּים וּגְדוּל-פֶּחַ וְנִשְׁקָה לֹא יִנְקָה
יְיָ בַסּוּפָה וּבִשְׁעָרָה דַּרְכּוֹ וְעֵינָי אֲבַק רַגְלָיו:

Deuteronomy 21:23. His body shall not remain all night upon the tree, but thou shalt in any wise bury him that day; [for he that is hanged is accursed of God;] that thy land be not defiled; which the Lord thy God giveth thee for an inheritance.

Psalms 22:1(2) My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? Why art thou so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

Nahum 1:3. The Lord is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all leave the guilty unpunished: the Lord hath His way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of His feet.

[In the Torah, death is not merely the curse of sin—see Genesis 2:17; 3:17-19, note #81. Death is also the legal penalty of justice so that God’s honor is not impugned by allowing evil to go unpunished—Nahum 1:3. Therefore, should we be surprised that when the Word of God came in the Law of Moses he demanded death for sin? Should we be surprised that when the Word of God came in the Messiah he satisfied his own demand by offering his own death as justice and mercy for all transgressors? The Word that promised life through Moses and the Prophets came to provide a death that would allow no sins to go unpunished, a death that would shield the redeemed from the curse of death and bring divine justice and immortality to light. The Word of God became our Messiah, our Deliverer. By his death he turned aside his Father’s holy fury against all our ungodliness. He took the penalty of death FOR us. When he said, “My God, why have you abandoned me?” he was God’s righteous and merciful Word taking OUR curse of abandonment from God—the curse of hell—upon himself to rescue us from the punishment we all deserve—see Isaiah 53:5, note #10. He did this so that all who believe can be raised to a new spiritual existence with him—see notes #68 and #70.]