

## Footstep #7 - Luther's Developing Theology - 1514

Although Luther did not formally write his commentary on Psalm 22 until after his excommunication in 1521, as a professor he lectured extensively on the contents of several psalms that describe the passion of the Messiah – for Luther this penitential psalm had great meaning because in the words he visualized Jesus Christ.. The opening sentence of his attack on indulgence practices in his Ninety-five Theses begins with the sentence: “The whole life of the Christian is a life of repentance.” (Robert Kolb, *Luther and the Stories of God*, p. 16)

***“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer, by night, and am not silent.”*** (Psalm 22 v:1-2) For Luther, these words describe the anguish of Jesus Christ on the cross on Good Friday. But v.3-5 clearly illustrated the priestly office of Jesus Christ as the Savior to Martin Luther!

***“Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One: you are the praise of Israel. In you our fathers put their trust; they trusted and you delivered them. They cried to you and were saved; in you they trusted and were not disappointed.”***

The image shows a musical score for Psalm 22, Part A, Klavierauszug. The score is written for piano and includes the following text: "LUTHERIA 22. Psalm Teil A - Klavierauszug". The score consists of three systems of music, each with a treble and bass clef. The first system is marked "Allegro" and the second system is marked "Moderato". The third system is marked "Allegro" and includes the lyrics: "A. Mein Gott, mein Gott, warum hast du mich verlassen? Warum bist du so fern von mir, so fern von den Worten meines Schreies? O mein Gott, ich rufe dich an tags, aber du antwortest nicht, nachts bin ich nicht still." The score is in G major and 4/4 time.