

2 Samuel 22:51

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He is the tower of salvation for his king: and sheweth mercy to his anointed, unto David, and to his seed for evermore.

Analysis

He is the tower of salvation for his king: and sheweth mercy to his anointed, unto David, and to his seed for evermore.

This verse contributes to the narrative of David's Song, emphasizing praising God for deliverance. David's psalm of deliverance (parallel to Psalm 18) celebrates God's faithfulness throughout his tumultuous reign. The Hebrew poetry employs vivid imagery of divine intervention, warrior language, and covenant terminology. Theological themes include praising God for deliverance, reviewing God's faithfulness in retrospect, the righteousness of God's judgments, and anticipation of ultimate victory through God's anointed (messianic overtones).

Historical Context

The historical setting of 2 Samuel 22 occurs during David's reign (circa 1010-970 BCE) over Israel's united monarchy. Archaeological discoveries, including the Tel Dan inscription mentioning the 'House of David,' corroborate biblical historicity. Ancient Near Eastern customs regarding praising God for deliverance provide crucial background. The geopolitical situation involved regional powers—Philistines, Ammonites, Arameans, Moabites, Edomites—as David consolidated and expanded Israel's territory. Cultural practices concerning kingship, warfare, covenant relationships, family dynamics, and religious observance differed significantly from modern Western contexts, requiring careful attention to avoid

anachronistic interpretation while extracting timeless theological principles applicable across cultures and eras.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of praising God for deliverance?
2. What does this verse reveal about God's character, and how should that shape your worship and obedience?
3. In what specific ways can you apply this truth to your current circumstances and relationships this week?

Interlinear Text

לְמָשִׁיחַ וּלְמַגְדָּל מֶלֶךְ וְנִשְׁׁוּעַ וְתִּשְׁׁוּעַ
He is the tower of salvation for his king and sheweth mercy to his anointed

לְדִין דְּלִין וְלִזְרָעַ וְלִזְרָעַ עַד עַד וְלֹאֵם:
unto David and to his seed for evermore

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 89:20 (References David): I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him:

Psalms 18:50 (Grace): Great deliverance giveth he to his king; and sheweth mercy to his anointed, to David, and to his seed for evermore.

Psalms 144:10 (Salvation): It is he that giveth salvation unto kings: who delivereth David his servant from the hurtful sword.

Psalms 89:29 (Parallel theme): His seed also will I make to endure for ever, and his throne as the days of heaven.

Revelation 11:15 (Kingdom): And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

Psalms 91:2 (Parallel theme): I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

Psalms 48:3 (Parallel theme): God is known in her palaces for a refuge.

Psalms 89:26 (Salvation): He shall cry unto me, Thou art my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.

Psalms 3:3 (Parallel theme): But thou, O LORD, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.

Psalms 21:1 (Salvation): The king shall joy in thy strength, O LORD; and in thy salvation how greatly shall he rejoice!