

Luke 1:69

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David;

Analysis

Zacharias prophesies that God has 'raised up an horn of salvation...in the house of his servant David.' The 'horn' symbolizes strength and power (1 Sam 2:10; Ps 132:17), while 'salvation' indicates deliverance and rescue. This horn specifically comes from David's house, fulfilling God's covenant promise (2 Sam 7:12-16). The perfect tense 'hath raised up' declares what God has accomplished in Mary's conception, though Jesus hasn't yet been born—prophetic certainty treats future fulfillment as accomplished fact. This demonstrates that salvation originates in God's sovereign power, not human effort. The Davidic lineage establishes Jesus's rightful claim to Israel's throne.

Historical Context

The 'horn of salvation' echoes Hannah's prayer (1 Sam 2:1) and numerous psalms, showing continuity of redemptive hope. The Davidic covenant promised an eternal dynasty, fulfilled ultimately in Christ whose kingdom has no end. Zacharias interprets recent events through this covenant framework.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. What does the symbol of a 'horn' teach about the nature of salvation God provides?
2. How does Jesus's Davidic lineage fulfill God's covenant promises?
3. Why does Zacharias speak of future salvation as already accomplished?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ἤγειρεν κέρας σωτηρίας ἡμῖν ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ
And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house
G2532 G1453 G2768 G4991 G2254 G1722 G3588 G3624

Δαβὶδ τοῦ παιδὸς αὐτοῦ
David servant G846
G1138 G3816

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 18:2 (Salvation): The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

Ezekiel 29:21 (Parallel theme): In that day will I cause the horn of the house of Israel to bud forth, and I will give thee the opening of the mouth in the midst of them; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

1 Samuel 2:10 (Parallel theme): The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall he thunder upon them: the LORD shall judge the ends of the earth; and he shall give strength unto his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed.

2 Samuel 22:3 (Salvation): The God of my rock; in him will I trust: he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me from violence.

Psalms 89:17 (Parallel theme): For thou art the glory of their strength: and in thy favour our horn shall be exalted.

1 Samuel 2:1 (Salvation): And Hannah prayed, and said, My heart rejoiceth in the LORD, mine horn is exalted in the LORD: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in thy salvation.

Mark 11:10 (References David): Blessed be the kingdom of our father David, that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.

Revelation 22:16 (References David): I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.

Amos 9:11 (Resurrection): In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old:

Psalms 89:3 (References David): I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant,

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