

Luke 1:71

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us;

Analysis

Salvation defined as deliverance 'from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us' initially suggests political liberation, yet ultimately refers to spiritual salvation from sin, Satan, and death—humanity's true enemies. While Zacharias's Jewish audience longed for freedom from Rome, the deeper fulfillment addresses bondage to sin (Rom 6:6-7) and Satan's dominion (Col 1:13). The comprehensive phrase 'all that hate us' encompasses every hostile spiritual force. This demonstrates how God's promises have both immediate, partial fulfillment and ultimate, complete fulfillment in Christ. True salvation addresses not merely temporal oppression but eternal bondage to sin and its consequences.

Historical Context

First-century Jews groaned under Roman occupation and anticipated Messiah's political deliverance. Yet Jesus's salvation would prove far greater—conquering sin and death rather than merely Rome. This spiritual interpretation doesn't negate physical deliverance but transcends it.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. What are the ultimate 'enemies' from which Christ delivers believers?
2. How does spiritual salvation surpass political or physical deliverance?
3. Why did many Jews fail to recognize Jesus because they expected different enemies to be defeated?

Interlinear Text

σωτηρίαν	ἐκ	ἐχθρῶν	ἡμῶν	καὶ	ἐκ	χειρὸς
That we should be saved	from	enemies	our	and	from	the hand
G4991	G1537	G2190	G2257	G2532	G1537	G5495
πάντων	τῶν	μισούντων	ἡμᾶς			
of all	G3588	that hate	us			
G3956		G3404	G2248			

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 106:10 (Salvation): And he saved them from the hand of him that hated them, and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.

Jeremiah 23:6 (Salvation): In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Deuteronomy 33:29 (Salvation): Happy art thou, O Israel: who is like unto thee, O people saved by the LORD, the shield of thy help, and who is the sword of thy excellency! and thine enemies shall be found liars unto thee; and thou shalt tread upon their high places.

Ezekiel 34:28 (Parallel theme): And they shall no more be a prey to the heathen, neither shall the beast of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and none shall make them afraid.

Jeremiah 32:37 (Parallel theme): Behold, I will gather them out of all countries, whither I have driven them in mine anger, and in my fury, and in great wrath; and I will bring them again unto this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely:

Luke 1:74 (Parallel theme): That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear,

Ezekiel 34:25 (Parallel theme): And I will make with them a covenant of peace, and will cause the evil beasts to cease out of the land: and they shall dwell safely in the wilderness, and sleep in the woods.

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