

Luke 1:74

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear,

Analysis

The purpose of salvation is 'that we being delivered from the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear.' The goal isn't merely deliverance for comfort but liberation for service. The phrase 'without fear' indicates freedom from both external threat and internal anxiety—complete security enabling wholehearted devotion. True worship requires freedom from bondage; we cannot properly serve God while enslaved to sin. This verse presents the Reformed *ordo salutis* pattern: deliverance precedes service, salvation enables obedience. We don't serve to be saved but are saved to serve. The emphasis on serving 'him' shows that salvation's ultimate purpose is God-centered, not self-centered.

Historical Context

Israel enslaved in Egypt couldn't worship freely; deliverance enabled them to serve God (Ex 7:16; 8:1). Similarly, spiritual deliverance from sin's bondage enables the fearless service and worship God desires. True freedom is found in serving God, not independence from Him.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does deliverance from sin enable rather than merely precede service to God?
2. What is the relationship between freedom from fear and wholehearted worship?
3. Why is serving God the purpose rather than merely a result of salvation?

Interlinear Text

τοῦ	δοῦναί	ἡμῖν	ἀφόβως	ἐκ	χειρὸς	τῶν
G3588	That he would grant	G1325	G2254	G870	G1537	G5495
						G3588
ἐχθρῶν	ἡμῶν	ρυσθέντας	λατρεύειν	αὐτῷ		
enemies	of our	that we being delivered	might serve	him		
G2190	G2257	G4506	G3000	G846		

Additional Cross-References

2 Timothy 1:7 (Parallel theme): For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Hebrews 9:14 (Parallel theme): How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Revelation 2:10 (Parallel theme): Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

Hebrews 2:15 (Parallel theme): And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Romans 8:15 (Parallel theme): For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

Luke 1:71 (Parallel theme): That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us;

Isaiah 45:17 (Parallel theme): But Israel shall be saved in the LORD with an everlasting salvation: ye shall not be ashamed nor confounded world without end.

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