

Psalm 119:146

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I cried unto thee; save me, and I shall keep thy testimonies.

Analysis

I cried unto thee; save me (קְרָאתֵיךְ הַשְׁעָנִי, qeratikha hoshieni)—The cry becomes more direct: save me (hoshieni, from yasha, to deliver, rescue). This is the root of Yeshua (Jesus)—"YHWH saves." **And I shall keep thy testimonies**—Again, salvation is sought not for comfort alone but for faithful obedience. Deliverance enables covenant fidelity.

Biblical soteriology consistently links salvation and sanctification. Titus 2:14 says Christ redeemed us "that he might... purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." Ephesians 2:10 declares we are "created in Christ Jesus unto good works." Salvation is rescue from sin's penalty and power—freedom to obey God's testimonies, not freedom from obligation to them.

Historical Context

Israel's archetypal salvation was the Exodus—deliverance from Egypt in order to serve YHWH at Sinai (Exodus 19:4-6). Salvation was always for covenant relationship and obedience, not merely from bondage.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does understanding salvation as rescue for obedience (not from obedience) reshape your view of grace and law?
2. In what areas of life do you need to cry 'save me' so that you can faithfully keep God's testimonies?

Interlinear Text

עדתיך: קבאתך כי אשמך הוא והשיע ני
thy testimonies: thy keep and I shall me save unto thee cried I
H5713 H8104 H3467 H7121

Additional Cross-References

Titus 2:14 (Parallel theme): Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

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